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MARCH/APRIL 2015

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In *this* issue

MARCH/APRIL 2015





50
SHOES, SHOES, SHOES!

147
JEWELLERY SPECIAL

47
I DO EDIT

241
STEP INSIDE OUR WINTER'S TALE

RECEPTIONS

65 CHAMPAGNE 4 WAYS Give your guests a cocktail hour to remember with these tasty drinks recipes. Yum!

75 BIG DAY LOOKBOOK Create a rich and opulent setting with deep purples, luscious flowers and exquisite mini perfume favours

97 WE HEART DETAILS Foiling stationery, destination details and your dessert on a stick – we love these inspired ideas

111 TRY THIS NOW! Don't know one end of a paintbrush from the other? Whatever your artistic expertise, we'll show you how to handpaint your wedding cake

HAIR & BEAUTY

128 IT'S YOUR BIG-DAY GLOSSOVER! The best bridal products and treatments from £26 – as roadtested by *Brides* own deputy editor Claudia Waterson

JEWELLERY SPECIAL

147 THE MOST BEAUTIFUL JEWELS ON EARTH 112 luxe pieces. We show you what to buy and how to wear it

153 ROCK IT YOUR WAY Find the ring you'll love for a lifetime with our must-read guide

154 YOUR DIAMOND TO DRESS JOURNEY Find the ring that most suits your look, then discover the gown you've dreamed of

156 UPGRADE YOUR HAIR DO Bejewel your big-day hair with these pretty accessories, inspired by the red-carpet's finest

159 STATEMENT STONES... for everywhere!

160 OUR LITTLE WHITE BOOK Read our expert guide and know what you want? Now discover where to shop for it

'LOVE IT' DRESSES

169 CHICONOMY 60 dresses, all styles, your budget. Plus the chance to win one of 12 gorgeous gowns by our favourite designers

241 STEP INSIDE OUR WINTER'S TALE Cloak yourself in romance with fairytale gowns that mix textured tulles, baroque high necks, and pretty silks and laces

252 SHE BANGS! Give it some in a sexy, so-not-trad silhouette of embellished satin, or opt for a cool 'I'm with the band' tux. Your day, your song, your style…

260 LIGHT ME UP! Who says delicate can't mean drama? Billowing silk-tulles and sheer chiffons paired with voluminous trains make a bold statement →

•COVER STORIES

In *this* issue



65
CHAMPAGNE YOUR WAY



75
BIG DAY LOOKBOOK

'SHE'S SO STYLISH'

187 **'WE BROUGHT THE OUTDOORS IN!'** A romantic party inspired by Blenheim Palace's stunning grounds

190 **'MY CHILDHOOD DREAM CAME TRUE'** A pretty al fresco do in the quaintest of Spanish villages

192 **'WE GOT MARRIED ON OUR BLOCK'** A marching band through Notting Hill added the perfect touch to these born-and-bred Londoners' big day

194 **'OUR VERY OWN NEW YORK GARDEN'** The Manhattan skyline was the backdrop to these gorgeous nuptials

196 **'WE GREW OUR WEDDING'** A rustic day on the farm with luxe touches

200 **'THE DAY HAD THE TIMELESS FEEL OF A FELLINI FILM'** We adore this fun day in elegant Monaco

202 **'WE MADE TRADITIONAL LOOK RELAXED'** Lanterns and sunflowers were the key to this luxurious wedding

204 **'WE BUILT OUR OWN VENUE'** An amazing flower wall took centre stage for this dramatic *Gatsby*-esque celebration

FEATURES

211 **THE MARRIAGE EFFECT** Novelist Emma Straub shares six surprising ways making it official changed her relationship

215 **WOULD YOU JOIN THE ELOPING TREND?** Yes please – or no way? Two writers battle it out

217 **7 HEROES TO SAVE THE (BIG) DAY** We've got the lowdown on who you can *really* count on in your bridal hour of need

TRAVEL

287 **LOOK NO WIFI (OR IPHONES, IPADS...)** Warning: these honeymoon hotspots are strictly for those who can handle zero signal

289 **THE BRIT AWARDS!** Forget heading abroad – our fave mini-moon and hen do destinations are all in the UK

REGULARS

47 **THE I DO EDIT** All the latest and greatest bridal trends from *Brides* HQ

221 **THE WEDDING INSIDER** The latest need-to-know tips and ideas

222 **DESIGNER PROFILE** Claire Pettibone talks gothic glam, vintage diamonds and her new collection

224 **DESIGNER PROFILE** Emma Victoria Payne on her French-inspired aesthetic and why veils aren't compulsory

226 ***BRIDES* EVERYWHERE** What you love on bridesmagazine.co.uk, *Brides*' Instagram, Pinterest, Twitter... everywhere!

OFFERS, EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS

124 **30% OFF BRIDESMAID DRESSES AT GHOST** Ditch the flounce and frills, and opt for one of the collection's floor-sweeping dresses

285 **SUBSCRIBE TO *BRIDES*** And get a fragrant Ecoya candle, worth £32

300 **WIN A £10,000 LUXURY HONEYMOON** Fly to Bali for seven days of luxury at the Four Seasons

324 **WIN ALL THIS!** Gorgeous goodies up for grabs, worth an amazing £6,231

COVER LOOK **Photographer** Ed Miles. **Styling** Bryony Toogood. **Vera Wang tulle and silk dress,** £6,500, and **Paris Tiaras hair clip,** £365, brownsfashion.com/bride. **0.63ct diamond and white-gold earrings,** £1,795, michaelrosejewels.com. **6.02ct diamond and platinum ring,** £75,000, luciecampbell.com. **Bouquet** (Sweet Avalanche, Peach Avalanche and Secret Garden roses), from £120, and **flower wall** (hydrangeas, and Secret Garden and Peach Avalanche roses), from £195 per sq ft, byappointmentonlydesign.com. **Hair:** Enzo Volpe at Mandy Coakley using Ojon haircare. **Make-up:** Sarah Brock using Chanel S 2015 and Chanel Body Excellence. **Manicurist:** Gintare Lisauskiene at Blossom & Jasmine using Essie. **Model:** Rosanne at Milk Model Management. **Fashion assistant:** Natasha Miles. **Photographer's assistants:** Liam Jackson and Tom Oritz

Bringing you Brides

NATASHA COLLINS – who is known for her gorgeous handpainted cakes – shows you how to decorate your wedding cake in *Try This Now* (page 111). The founder of Nevie-Pie Cakes says: 'When picking a cakemaker, always make sure that you visit them first. Often brides don't have a very clear idea of what they want – a good cakemaker should be able to guide you through the options.'





ROBERT HORNSBY – the creative director of award-winning florist InWater Flowers – created the sensational floral displays in our opulent *Big Day Lookbook* on page 75. Robert says: 'The big flower trend this year is colour! Be brave and make sure you go crazy with different shades – the look is all about fun!'

SOPHIE McMULLAN specialises in bridal beauty, creating flawless, glowing skin and subtle styles. Sophie – who did deputy editor Claudia Waterson's immaculate make-up for our beauty pages (page 128) – says: 'Being a bride's make-up artist is such a personal experience – I draw my inspiration from her. Each face is unique, as is each bride's individual style, so creating each look in this sense is a team effort.'





HARRIET CHUBB – *Brides* supplements editor – wrote the brilliant *Venues Guide* you'll find with this issue. Harriet, who has previously worked for *Vogue* and *Condé Nast Traveller*, says: 'There are so many fab venues out there so it was pretty tough to pick only 100! This year I've even made sure to include some of my favourite spots to get married abroad.'



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Your instant beauty upgrade!



There are so many exciting decisions to make in the run up to your wedding day. The small matter of the most important dress you'll ever wear; shades, styles and season of flowers; a cake that's going to delight (and feed) all your guests, and feeling confident and happy that you look your absolute best ever. We know you're obsessed with beauty – 71% of you agree that upgrading your make-up for your big day is essential*. So this issue we have given you the most thorough coverage of the best beauty products and treatments out there. *Brides* deputy editor Claudia has (bravely!) spent the past three months road-testing every one of them for you. From a skin-brightening routine to a more extreme series of 'injectables', she has put her face on the line (and up nice and big on page 128) so you can see the results for yourselves.

But if treatments and needles aren't for you, then one indulgent thing every bride-to-be can do is upgrade her make-up bag. Products that might be fine for every-day use, need a serious injection of staying power, luxury textures and prettier-than-ever packaging if they're going to accompany you on that day of days! So I asked our cover make-up artist Sarah Brock to take a look at the contents of my make-up bag and tell me exactly how she would upgrade it to make it wedding worthy. Don't miss her expert advice here and enjoy the rest of the issue...

Jade

Jade Beer, Editor

JADE'S PRODUCT Shimmer Brick Compact, £32.50, bobbibrown.co.uk
SARAH'S SWAP Shimmering Skin Perfector, £33, beccacosmetics.com (1)
Sarah says: 'The Bobbi Brown product is a fab everyday highlighter, but because of its shimmer I'd avoid using it on your big day (the shine can "bounce" off flash photography). I like to use creamy highlighters like Becca's; add to your cheekbones for a luxe look.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Rich Lip Color, £19.50, bobbibrown.co.uk
SARAH'S UPGRADE Pure Color Envy Sculpting Lipstick, £21, esteelauder.co.uk (2)
'Bobbi Brown's full coverage formulation is an amazing day-to-day lipstick, but on your wedding day you don't want to keep rushing to a mirror to reapply. The latest Estée Lauder product is genius – it's designed to follow the curves of your lips so you don't need a mirror or compact to apply.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Pressed Pigment, £17, maccosmetics.co.uk
SARAH'S UPGRADE Sparkle Eyeshadow, £23, bobbibrown.co.uk (3)
'The Mac pigments are amazing for adding extra sparkle but they're a no for wedding-day make-up - too much glitter can appear "prom like". Opt for a more subtle finish – Bobbi Brown eyeshadows will give you gentle bridal shimmer.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Matte Radiance Baked Powder Highlighter, £24, Laura Mercier at selfridges.com
SARAH'S SWAP Prep + Prime Transparent Finishing Powder, £20.50, maccosmetics.co.uk (4)
'The Laura Mercier powder gives an immaculate finish for the evening, but for a daytime wedding (where photos are taken outside), its luminosity looks "flashy". Use a Mac powder instead.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Tea Tree & Witch Hazel Spot Wand, £3.59, boots.com
SARAH'S UPGRADE Pâte Grise Overnight Spot Treatment, £17, Payot at cultbeauty.co.uk (5)
'This Boots wand is a gentle everyday treatment, but in the run-up to your big day, blemishes need something stronger. Payot's cream will banish even angry redness.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Bronzing Duo Mineral Compact, £28, clarins.co.uk (6)
STAYS 'One of my favourite bronzers. The soft browns suit all skin tones. Lightly sweep over your face when you've finished your make-up for a sun-kissed glow.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Rouge Allure Extrait de Gloss, £32, chanel.com
SARAH'S SWAP Lip Lustre Luxe, £16.50, charlotte tilbury.com (7)
'Chanel's formula is fab for adding colour but for fuller coverage, mix a lipstick and gloss. For your wedding, pick a finer gloss that won't change the colour of your lipstick, like Charlotte's.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Le Blanc Multi-Use Illuminating Base, £33, chanel.com (8)
STAYS 'It's a "must-have"; you can mix it with your foundation for a dewy look and use it as a highlighter.'

JADE'S PRODUCT HydraQuench Moisture Replenishing Lip Balm, £19, clarins.co.uk (9)
STAYS 'This lip balm is in my own pro kit. It plumps and soothes dry lips, and works as a great primer to ensure that lipstick stays *forever*.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Sumptuous Extreme Lash Multiplying Volume Mascara, £23, esteelauder.co.uk
SARAH'S UPGRADE Diorshow Waterproof Backstage Mascara, £24.50, dior.com (10)
'Estée Lauder's mascara is quick to apply and creates full lashes . But because of (possible) tears on your big day, you need a waterproof, formula, like Dior's.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Brow Bar Pencil, £13, B by Blink at beautybay.com
SARAH'S UPGRADE Instant Lift For Brows, £16, clinique.co.uk (11)
'The Blink Brow pencil will leave you looking groomed but upgrade to Clinique for a softer, natural bridal style.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Rouge Coco Lipstick, £25, chanel.com (12)
STAYS 'I've used this iconic lippie on many brides. It gives a creamy finish to lips and has great staying power.'

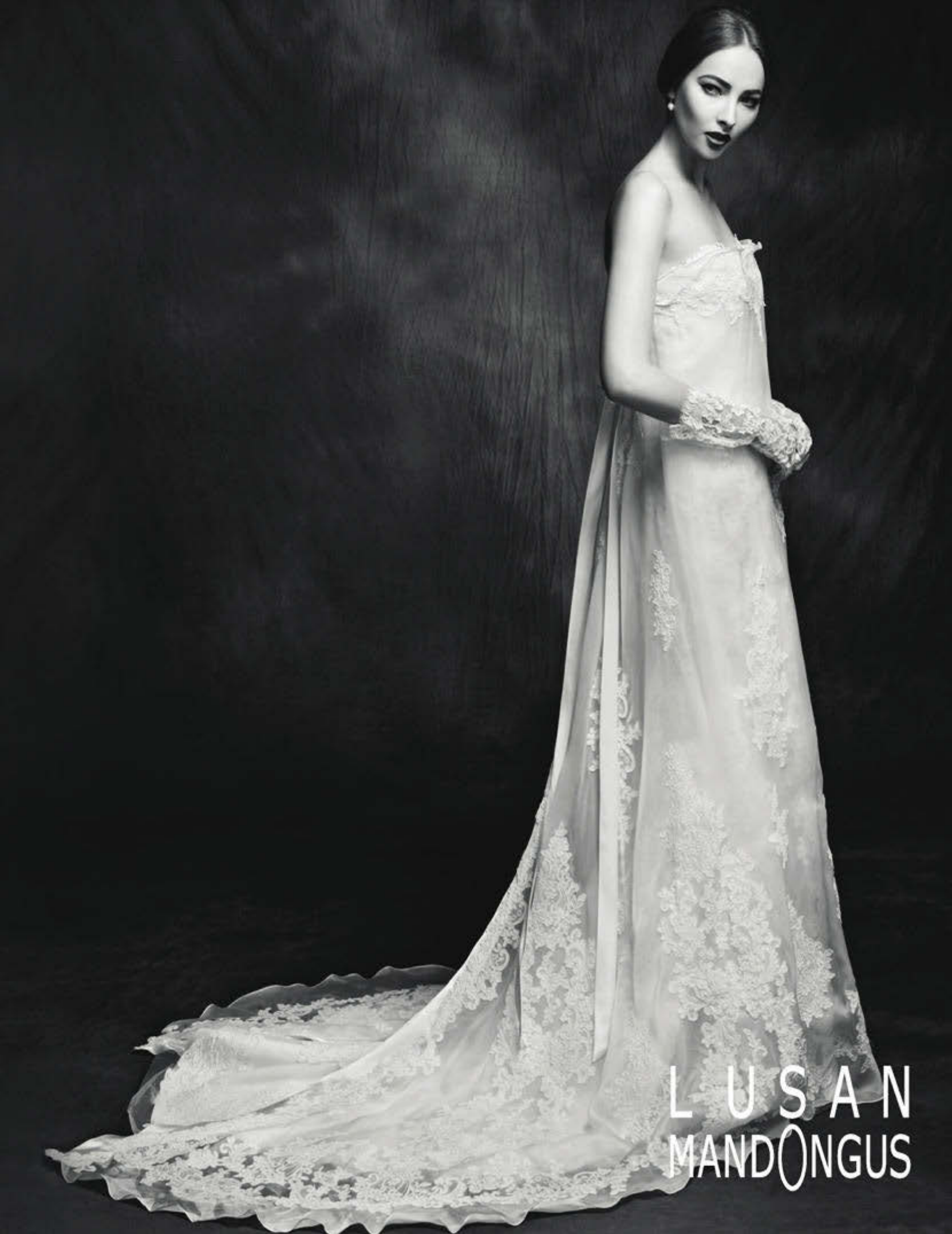
JADE'S PRODUCT Studio Sculpt Foundation, £25, maccosmetics.co.uk
SARAH'S UPGRADE Luminous Silk Foundation, £34.50, armanibeauty.co.uk (13)
'Mac's foundation gives fabulous coverage but for your wedding you need something longer-lasting. This Armani foundation evens out the complexion without looking heavy.'

JADE'S PRODUCT Eye Colour Quad, £63,tomford.com (14)
STAYS 'The ultimate in luxury for a bride, there are four easy-to-wear shades. Work in a natural style for the day, then build up to an intense smokey eye for the evening.' B

EMBELLISHED CLUTCH, £40, SKINNYDIPLONDON.COM. PHOTOGRAPHS: NICHOLE REES, JODY TODD. * SOURCE: *BRIDES* 2013 SURVEY

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EDITOR Jade Beer

PA to the editor/Editorial assistant Sophie Cullen
Deputy editor Claudia Waterson
Creative director Elizabeth Edwards
Managing editor Louisa McGovern
Chief sub-editor Emma Byrne
Picture editor Hannah Lamacraft
Fashion director Bryony Toogood
Fashion & beauty editor Astrid Joss
Lifestyle stylist Laura Burkitt
Online content editor Sam Rogers

CONTRIBUTORS Barbara Spoettel, Carl Bengtsson, Catherine Gratwicke, Colette de Barros, Davydd Chong, Deborah Joseph, Ed Miles, Elizabeth Aslin, Elliott Wilmot, Greg Hughes, Lucinda Turner, Nato Welton, Nichole Rees, Polly Beynon, Robyn Hamilton, Rosalyn Wikeley, Sarah Hourahane, Viv Groskop

DIRECTOR OF EDITORIAL ADMINISTRATION & RIGHTS Harriet Wilson
Editorial business & rights executive Katie Dixon
International permissions manager Eleanor Sharman
Syndication enquiries syndication@condenast.co.uk

CONDÉ NAST DIGITAL UK Head of digital Wil Harris

MARKETING DIRECTOR Jean Faulkner
Deputy marketing & research director Gary Read
Associate director, digital marketing Susie Brown
Senior data manager Tim Westcott
Marketing executive Katie Bowden
Acting research executive Georgia Brunt

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Commercial and paper production controller Martin MacMillan
Commercial production coordinator Jessica Beeby
FINANCIAL CONTROL DIRECTOR Penny Scott-Bayfield
HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR Hazel McIntyre

PUBLISHER Camilla Newman
camilla.newman@condenast.co.uk
020 7152 3666

Associate publisher Victoria Hunter
victoria.hunter@condenast.co.uk
020 7152 3870

Advertisement director Katie Ruocco (ext.3366)
katie.ruocco@condenast.co.uk

Advertisement manager Amanda Bolton (ext.3049)
amanda.bolton@condenast.co.uk

Acting account executive Elizabeth Isaac (ext.3049)
elizabeth.isaac@condenast.co.uk

Senior account manager Lily O'Shea (ext.3434)
lily.oshea@condenast.co.uk

Retail editor & events director Arabella Dupont (ext.3433)
arabella.dupont@condenast.co.uk

Project manager Belle Rice (ext.3361)
belle.rice@condenast.co.uk

BRIDES BESPOKE *Promotions*

Head of Bespoke Victoria Hunter (ext.3870)
victoria.hunter@condenast.co.uk

Art director Yasmina Green (ext.3903)
yasmina.green@condenast.co.uk

Supplements editor Harriet Chubb (ext.3363)
harriet.chubb@condenast.co.uk

Producer Grace Barnes (ext.3364)
grace.barnes@condenast.co.uk

CLASSIFIED DIRECTOR Shelagh Crofts

Classified sales manager Vanessa Mullinder

Classified sales executives Emma Willey, Francesca Thirley

Regional sales director Karen Allgood

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Regional Office, The Condé Nast Publications Ltd, Suite 1, Second floor, Merchant Exchange, Waters Green, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 6JX. Call 020 7152 3276

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR Richard Kingerlee

Newstrade circulation manager Elliott Spaulding

Newstrade promotions executive Anna Pettinger

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DIRECTORS Jonathan Newhouse, Nicholas Coleridge, Stephen Quinn, Annie Holeroft, Pam Raynor, Jamie Bill, Jean Faulkner, Shelagh Crofts, Albert Read, Patricia Stevenson

DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR Albert Read

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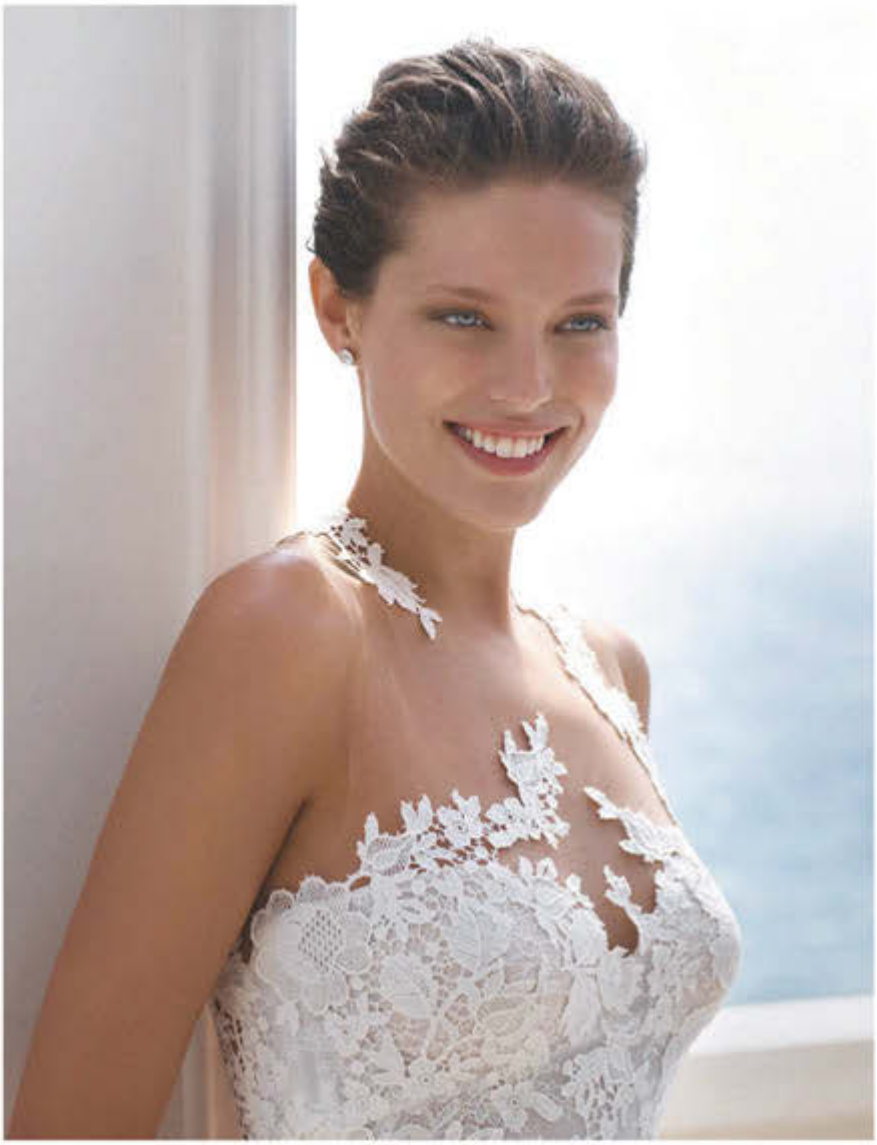
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annasul y.

YOUR **BIG** DAY by... **YOU!**



81%

of you are having your make-up and hair done by a pro

Will you have a drink before the vows?

68%

say, absolutely!

(Your favourite tipple? Champagne, of course)



MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO?



82%

revealed they can't wait to say their vows. 'Awwwww!'



WHAT ARE YOU MOST WORRIED ABOUT?

79%

Rain! (What else?)

21% *plan to marry in the evening*

ARE YOU BUYING YOUR GROOM A GIFT?



Yes 86%

No 14%

WHAT COLOUR FLOWERS ARE YOU CARRYING?



41%

ALL WHITE

34% white with a hint of hue – pink, blue and yellow

12% red all the way

8% just pink

5% an unusual shade (like Malibu blue and orange!)

WHAT *BRIDES* DID

Follow us on Instagram for our daily diary of life at wedding HQ



Step into *Brides* Editor Jade Beer's style diary on **@charlie_brear** and **@bridesmagazine** and fall in love with the bridal designer's stunning second ready-to-wear collection



Brides HQ decamped to the amazing **@coworthpark** in Ascot for a creative away day. Inspired in every way!



We were swept away by this truly gorgeous display at Browns Bride from **@byappointmentonlydesign**

PHOTOGRAPHS: LIAM DUKE, JODY TODD, JEREMY ENNESS


SHARON CUNNINGHAM
London
sharoncunningham.com
Photographer Jemima Marriott


CLAIRE PETTIBONE
Romantique
PHOTOGRAPHED BY LAURA GORDON PHOTOGRAPHY GOWN FEATURED: CEYLON



clairepettibone.com/romantique

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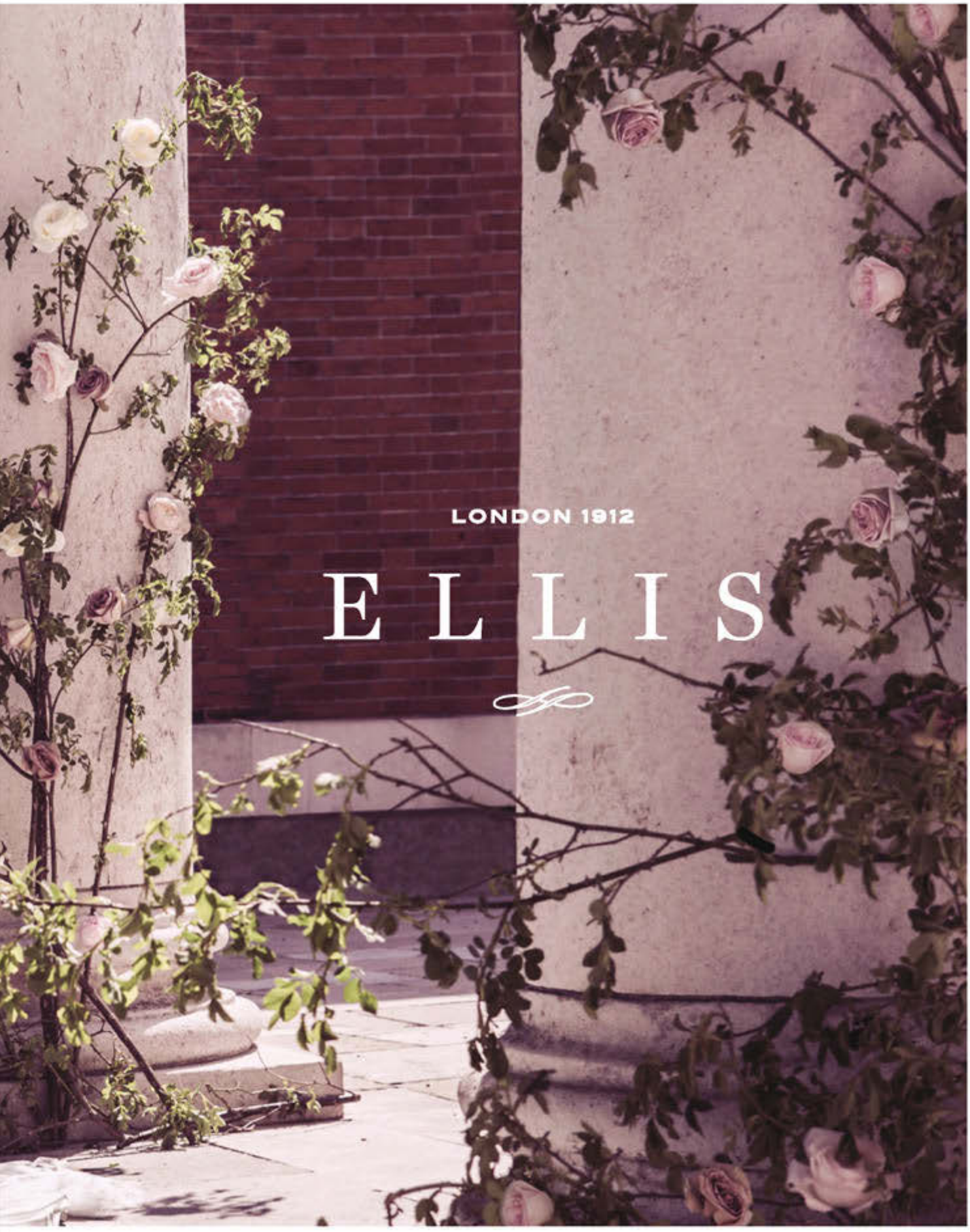
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The I do edit

NEWS, TRENDS & LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT



Get gilding! Golden hanging leaves and table decor (below) instantly upgrade a rustic reception

ALTUZARRA

ZUHAIR MURAD

Gold-dusted rose and almond sweets, £16.95 for a box, harrods.com

Be inspired by foil-finish eyes

Cake, POA (serves 130), rosalindmillercakes.com

Bouquet (Quicksand roses), from £120, byappointmentonlydesign.com

24ct gold champagne lollipop, £5.99, Gold Lix at selfridges.com

Love that lustre!

Make your big day shine with gleaming gold leaf... EVERYWHERE!

Edible 24ct gold, £5.99, notonthehighstreet.com



Gold-leaf macarons, £3.20 each, laduree.com



Gold Cuvée with 22ct gold flakes, £13 each, selfridges.com



Edible gold leaf + a ripe pear = luxe deliciousness!

Gold vodka with 22ct gold flakes, £15, uomfassuk.com



Lend a sheen to your ceremony by marrying in the Pompadour Suite at London's Hotel Café Royal

Gold leaf sushi, from £3.50 each, rarefood.com



Wreath monogram print, £15.50, Hopeless Romantics at etsy.com

New York, New York!

Gorgeous details you can't afford to miss from the latest U.S. collections



The romance of detachable shoulder streamers at Monique Lhuillier



Embellished satin or studded faux leather? Hayley Paige gives a nod to Nashville



The bow is back... but it's now oh-so cool in tulle at Vera Wang



Dim the lights for the perfect first dance dress – glow in the dark at Houghton NYC



A flash of scarlet satin detailing at Johanna Johnson



Floaty organza and intricate lace 'wings' on the back of Claire Pettibone's Gothic Angels collection



All wrapped up in cherry blossom from head to toe at Reem Acra →

PHOTOGRAPHS: BRKLYNVIEW.COM, JODY TODD, CAROLINA AMBIDA, CATWALKING.COM

The *I do* edit



Le PETITE *aaaah!*

Finding the prettiest mini maid and coolest pageboy looks they'll *want* to wear just got a whole lot easier, as the biggest names in kidswear reveal their cutest pieces



Eau de love

Designed to reflect the love locks on Paris's Pont Des Arts (padlocks couples have added to the bridge to symbolise their love), Chloé's new fragrance, Love Story, is sexy and feminine, with notes of jasmine and orange blossom. Write your own love story by working this scent into the romance of your day.

LOVE STORY

Love Story, £47 for 30ml, Chloé at debenhams.com

3 HOT U.S. **FLOWER TRENDS** COMING OUR WAY



THE GUEST BOUQUET

Ask friends and family to bring a single flower stem to the ceremony to make up a totally unique bouquet as you walk down the aisle.



THE TWIST ON THE BOUQUET TOSS

Get guests to hold on to ribbons attached to your bouquet. You start to cut the ribbons and the last guest clutching one wins!



THE GROWN-UP FLOWER GIRL

Who says flower girls have to be under the age of 10? Put granny in the spotlight by asking her to sprinkle some petals down the aisle.

PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD, GENEVIEVELEIPER.COM, EMILYWRENWEDDINGS.COM

Let them eat... **Frankenpastries!**



THE DORON (doughnut + macaron): From £3, ganache-macaron.co.uk

THE BROOKIE (brownie + cookie): From £1.25, batchbakery.co.uk

THE CRISCUIT (potato crisps + biscuit): From £1.75, rarefood.com

MUFFLES (truffle + marshmallow): £5.50 for a bag of three, angesdesucre.com

Move over cronut, there's a new foodie freak in town! Bite-sized and delicious, these hybrid treats make a fabulous wedding canapé or dessert. Here are our faves mash-ups – tried and tested (ahem) by the *Brides* team of course... →



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The *I do* edit

Show me *the* SHOES!

New kicks on the block

Be well-heeled with these latest bridal releases



Satin heels, £525, sophiawebster.co.uk

Satin and crystal heels, £360, sophiawebster.co.uk

Embellished suede heels, £295, lkbennett.com



Satin flats with crystal embellishment, £525, jimmychoo.com



Faux-leather brogues, £19.99, newlook.com



Glitter heels, £210, lkbennett.com

Make mine a flat white

Who needs a caffeine high when you've got cool wedding flats?



Leather flats, £245, russellandbromley.co.uk





Glitter trainers, £125, London Sole at frenchsole.com





Satin and glitter flats, £160, frenchsole.com

Your gown? Pah! Let's see how you're going to dress your feet





Lace and leather heels, £79, dunelondon.com



Leather and grosgrain heels, £495, jimmychoo.com

You get the point!

Ballet pumps are cute but stay a step ahead in the hottest shape of the season



Suede heels, £119, boden.co.uk



Leather heels, £59, Faith at debenhams.com



Metallic leather kitten heels, £198, lucychoilondon.com

Embellished satin heels, £65, No 1 Jenny Packham at debenhams.com →

PHOTOGRAPHS: ANTHONY EDWIN, JODY TODD



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The *I do* edit



Precious & pretty

Monique Lhuillier's dreamy Fall 2015 collection got us reminiscing about all our jewellery box keepsakes and treasures. Think soft ballerina shades and delicate pastel sparkle



FOR GROOMS WHO LOVE TO BE GROOMED!

Want a sweet-smelling *and* well-dressed man on your wedding day? (Trick question, right?) Give him the beauty heads-up here...



For men who want to:

SMELL GREAT

✶ **The Rock The Ages collection by JO MALONE** are unisex modern fragrances based on historic scents. **Tudor Rose & Amber** and **Birch & Black Pepper Colognes,** £42 each, jomalone.co.uk

LOOK GOOD

✶ **BIRCHBOX's first-ever 'try now, buy later' men's beauty box** means there's no excuse for shopping haters – it can be done from the comfort of your own sofa! £25, birchbox.com

SHOP EASY

✶ **The BRUMMELLS OF LONDON shop,** in London's Ham Yard village, is set to be the beauty mecca for groomed men. Stocking nothing but the best in beauty, grooms will find the ultimate in brands and products for all their needs →

PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD, FLORIAN SOMMET/FOLIO-ID


AMANDA WYATT
amandawyatt.com ~ fashion@amandawyatt.com

The *I do* edit

BEAUTY BUZZ

What's hot for 2015

3 new products in line for cult, 'must-buy' status





INSTANT LIGHT LIP COMFORT OIL, £18, CLARINS.CO.UK Like giving your lips a facial! Containing 100% natural plant oils, including nourishing hazelnut and mirabelle organic oils, it keeps lips smooth and enhances their natural colour.

MIRACLE CUSHION, £29.50, LANCOME.CO.UK This compact is three products in one! The applicator lets you control the amount of liquid released: for a light effect (like a primer), pat the cream on; for a natural look (like a BB cream) push twice and press the cream on; and for max coverage (like a foundation), push three times and then just glide it on in sweeping movements.

THE SERUM MASSAGE TOOL, £50, CREMEDELAMER.CO.UK Backstage at the shows, make-up artists massage models' skin to bring out their natural glow. For a similar effect use this wonder tool to increase circulation and radiance. Pair with your favourite serum.



PAINT YOUR OWN POPS! CREATE YOUR OWN BIG-DAY CAKE POPS OR GIFT THE KIT TO MINI MAIDS. EITHER WAY, WE LOVE!

Cake-pop kit (includes six paints, sugar accessories and decorating equipment), £40, popbakery.co.uk

Keep them *sweet!*



The best big thank-yous to send to your 'couldn't have done it without you' friends

Fresh flowers delivered through the door, slender enough to slide through the letterbox, sturdy enough to protect every petal. Genius! Bloom & Wild's Letterbox Collection offers bouquets as a single purchase, a gift bundle or an ongoing subscription. From £20 for a single delivery and £50 for gift bundles; bloomandwild.com

For the gift that keeps on giving – the unique wine-tasting box. The perfect present, it allows you to taste and experience the world's most iconic wines each month. A Monthly Vinoa Box costs from £54.95 for six months; vinoa.co.uk

A Tucktuck box is the sweetest thing your letterbox has seen! Choose from 25 types of retro sweets including Love Hearts, bonbons and Dolly Mixtures – all with a message inside the beautifully packaged boxes. From £7.95; tucktuck.co.uk →

Bonjour, Madame Aime!

Parisian silk lingerie label Madame Aime has arrived in the UK (yes!). The range has everything from teddies to shorty knickers in sugary-sweet pastel shades of that other Parisian export, the macaron. Pack plenty for the honeymoon, we say.



Calling all London-based Charlotte Balbier fans! You now have access to 50 pretty designs from Charlotte's past and present collections at Boa Boutique in Richmond, her first London flagship shop. Prices cost from £895; boa-boutique.co.uk and charlottebalbier.com



Lace briefs, £90, and **lace bra,** £140

Lace bra, £125, and **lace briefs,** £100

Silk and lace teddy, £215, all Madame Aime at net-a-porter.com

PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD, DAVID GUBERT, ISTOCKPHOTO.COM


Lyn Ashworth
by Sarah Barrett
www.lynashworth.co.uk
Tel 01283 820643
Made in England
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Georgina Pimm Bridal, Oxfordshire - 01608 646611
Rachel Scott Couture, Scotland - 0131 556 1520
BOA Boutique, Richmond, Surrey - 020 8948 2340
Atelier Bridal, Alderley Edge, Cheshire - 01625 583385
Alexandra Anne, Chatsworth, Derbyshire - 01246 582925
For a complete listing of our collections and stockists please visit our website



S is for sleep

...and it's also for spa! Put them together and what have you got? The three best spa sleep treatments, ideal for pre-wedding wind-downs

The underwater hug: This floating, pool-based therapy is used to treat chronic insomnia. During the massage, your therapist (yep, she's in the water with you) gently pulls and stretches your limbs, as the rest of your body is supported by floats. It's an intimate experience but for those prepared to go with the flow, the results are great.
WATSU MASSAGE, FROM £120 FOR 50 MINUTES, AKASHA AT HOTELCAFEROYAL.COM

The massage: The power of scent is key to this über-relaxing treatment. Using a blend of vetivert, chamomile and sandalwood – which are all renowned for their calming effects – the session begins with a warming foot ritual, followed by a top-to-toe massage using Swedish techniques to release any untapped tension. The end result will definitely require a cab-ride home and (be warned) a *seriously* early night.
SLEEP DEEPLY, FROM £50, AROMATHERAPYASSOCIATES.COM

The fix-it clinic: This bespoke three-month programme, developed with the Royal Brompton Sleep Clinic, will tackle everything from mild sleeplessness to more serious conditions. You'll be treated to hypnosis, acupuncture and meditation alongside personal training and nutritional advice, all in the gorgeous Grace Belgravia, London's first luxury women-only health club.
FROM £1,500 FOR A THREE-MONTH BESPOKE PROGRAMME, GRACEBELGRAVIA.COM


CABBAGE AND ARTICHOKE


ARTICHOKE


SQUASH


BROCCOLI


ALLIUMS (KNOWN AS ORNAMENTAL ONIONS)

SO PRETTY YOU COULD EAT THEM

THESE GORGEOUS STEMS ARE ALL FLOWERS FROM VEGETABLES. AS WELL AS BEING NOT-YOUR-USUAL BLOOMS, THEY ADD A BEAUTIFULLY SEASONAL TOUCH TO YOUR BIG-DAY BOUQUET



By George!

Embellish your bridal hair with pieces from stylist to the stars George Northwood

After years of grooming A-list locks, George has teamed up with jewellery designer Kat Barry to create a seven-piece accessories collection, including this hairslide (£185). Inspired by the Victorian era but with a super-cool twist, the collection features Swarouski crystals, rose quartz, citrine gemstones, and gold and silver stardust beads. **From £50-£550; katandgeorge.co.uk**

PHOTOGRAPHS: AUDREYCOURCHESNE.COM, FLORIAN SOMMET/FOLIO-ID, DEBI TRELOAR, FRANCISJOSEPHPHOTOS.COM, KAITLIEBRYANT.COM, JEN-RODRIGUEZ.COM, LYNNKARLINPHOTO.COM

It's #tbw (That's Throwback Wed-day)



This year, *Brides* turns 60, and #tbw is our celebration of beautiful bridal from issues past. This cover from 1969 is 46 years old but still looks so fresh! Here's how to get the look...

Bouquet (phalaenopsis orchids, Avalanche roses and lily of the valley), from £500, inwaterflowers.co.uk B



Felt and crystal hat with netting, £480, piers atkinson.com

Brocade and mikado dress, POA, pronovias.co.uk



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Limited availability of certain styles/colours. ©2015 DAVID'S BRIDAL



the love

"There's nothing like being surrounded by friends and family. So much love!"

— Darla, bohemian bride



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ti adora

BY ALVINA VALENTA

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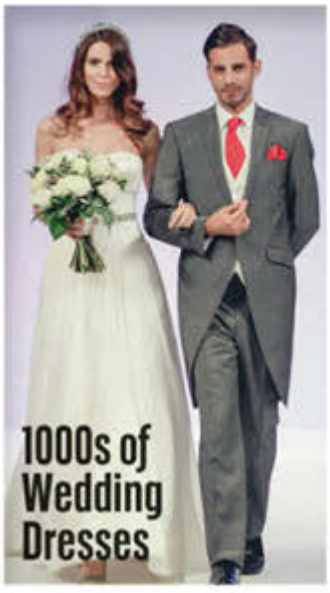
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CHAMPAGNE 4 *ways*

It's your *year* of parties (and you thought it was just about the big day!) Enjoy a bubbly cocktail tailor made for each celebration...



1 FOR THE WEDDING

A REFINED ELIXIR LACED WITH EDIBLE GLITTER FOR A FORMAL PARTY. BLACK TIE OPTIONAL

- **Gold edible lustre dust***
- **White sanding sugar****
- **1 tbsp pear liqueur (such as Poire Williams)**
- **1/8 tsp vanilla essence**
- **Chilled champagne**
- **Pear slices**

Dip a coupe rim into a saucer of water, then into a saucer of edible gold dust mixed with white sanding sugar. Combine the pear liqueur and vanilla, pour into the glass and top with champagne. Garnish with lustre-dusted pear slices →

*AVAILABLE AT CAKESCOOKIESANDCRAFTSSHOP.CO.UK **AVAILABLE AT ETSY.COM. PHOTOGRAPHS: ZACH DESART FOOD STYLING: LIZA JERNOW/PLUM REPS

Cocktails



2 FOR THE ENGAGEMENT PARTY

TART, WARMING, AND SO FESTIVE – IT'S IDEAL FOR TOASTING CHRISTMAS PROPOSALS!

- **3 tbsp blood orange juice**
- **1 tbsp cognac**
- **1 tsp Cointreau**
- **Gold edible lustre dust***
- **Chilled champagne**
- **Orange zest, in long strips**

Stir together the juice, cognac and Cointreau in a gold-lustre-rimmed flute. Top with chilled champagne. To create the garnish, skewer crisscrossed strips of orange zest with a long toothpick to form a flower shape

3 FOR THE HEN PARTY

SUPER-CHIC AND EASY TO WHIP UP IN A HOTEL ROOM. DANCE PARTY FUEL: CHECK!

- **2 tbsp passion fruit juice**
- **1 tbsp vodka**
- **Sliced star fruit**
- **Chilled champagne**

Combine the fruit juice and vodka in a flute. Add two slices of star fruit, and top with champagne. Garnish with a third slice

4 FOR THE MORNING OF...

THE GLAMOROUS ALTERNATIVE TO A PLAIN OLD BUCK'S FIZZ: PUT YOUR MAID OF HONOUR IN CHARGE OF CREATING THESE DELICIOUS RASPBERRY AND ROSEWATER CONCOCTIONS

- **3 raspberries**
- **1 tbsp Chambord**
- **1 tbsp raspberry purée**
- **5 drops rosewater**
- **Chilled rosé champagne**

Put three raspberries on to a long toothpick. Place on a piece of parchment paper and freeze until solid (about three hours). Mix Chambord, purée, and rosewater together in the bottom of a chilled coupe. Top with rosé champagne and the frozen raspberry skewer

"after you toss the bouquet... I suggest you have hubby for dessert!"

Essie



new
2015 bridal collection

You've landed the man, so leave the mani (and pedi!) of your dreams to me! From proposal to honeymoon, I've got the perfect shades for your happily ever after.

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Big day Lookbook

4 COLOURS: 1 BEAUTIFUL WEDDING



YOUR PALETTE

Dark florals and twinkling tall candles are offset against a jewel-coloured palette of deep purples, burgundy, emerald, and antique gold, balanced with lilac, mint and pink. To set a rich, romantic scene, award-winning florist InWater Flowers' luscious winter blooms are displayed in coloured vases and precious trinket boxes, the stems and foliage spilling on to mirrored tiles. Treat guests to luxuries, including exquisite desserts, mini perfume favours and gilded champagne cocktails, and finish with a fairytale dress and plenty of sparkle

THE NEWLYWEDS **BRIDE: Lace top,** £2,970; **silk-organza skirt,** £3,960, and **belt,** £210, Elizabeth Fillmore at brownsfashion.com/bride. **GROOM: Tuxedo jacket,** £75, next.co.uk. **Trousers,** £565, Alexander McQueen at mrporter.com. **Shirt,** £110, hackett.co.uk. **Velvet bowtie,** £59, thomaspink.com. **Canvas backdrop,** from £220, onwarddisplay.com

Styling **LAURA BURKITT**
Photographs **CATHERINE GRATWICKE**



'Antique gold trinket boxes filled with textural hydrangeas evoke the splendour and the grandeur of Renaissance still-life paintings.'

Robert Hornsby
InWater Flowers creative director

PLACE CARDS **Gold trinket box,** £25, maxandmelia.com. **Flowers** (anemones, hydrangeas, dendrobium and astrantias), from £40, inwaterflowers.co.uk. **Place-name card,** £3, paulantonioscribe.com. **Charger plate,** £83, l-objet.com. **Dinner plate,** £85, royalcrown derby.co.uk. **Small plate,** 32p, and **napkin,** £1.08, to hire, joneshire.co.uk



DESSERT TABLE *(Cakes from left)* **Dark cake,** from £500 (serves 60), nicolaholbrooke.co.uk. **Glass stand,** similar £9.99, silverandstuff.co.uk. **Marie Antoinette violet cake,** £132 (serves 12), laduree.com. **Glass stand,** £45, theweddingofmydreams.co.uk. **Watercolour cake,** POA (serves 175), rosalindmillercakes.com. **Small hurricane lamps,** £50 each, charles burnand.com. **Large arrangement in vase** (hydrangeas, Moody Blue roses, Anigozanthos 'Kanga Burgundy', dendrobium and Senecio cineraria 'Silver Dust'), from £395, and **small arrangement in trumpet vase** (Patience and Keira David Austin roses, lilac spray roses, miniature red snowberries, carnation 'Antigua' and ranunculus) from £180, inwaterflowers.co.uk →

Lookbook









PETITS FOURS £7.20 for four, laduree.com. **Brandy snaps with fruit,** from £4.50 each, vanillaorchidbakery.co.uk. **Cake stand,** £447, l-objet.com. **Mirrored tray,** £55, indiajane.co.uk. **Large hurricane lamp,** £340, charlesburnand.com. **Tea spoon,** £1.15, to hire, joneshire.co.uk. **Arrangement in vase** (tulips, carnation 'Antigua', David Austin roses, ranunculus and astrantias), from £100, inwaterflowers.co.uk. **Canvas backdrop; large arrangement** and **small hurricane lamps,** as before **FIG COCKTAIL** **Cocktail package,** from £30 a head, partyingredients.co.uk. **Cocktail glass,** £40 for four, lsa-international.com. **Mirrored tray,** £39, indiajane.co.uk **POP-UP INVITE** From £39 (plus £360 design fee), cutture.com. **Envelope with calligraphy,** from £4.20, paulantonioscribe.com. **Arrangement in vase** (Moody Blue and Miranda Davis Austin roses, black cosmos and ranunculus), £60, inwaterflowers.co.uk **FLOWERS** **Small arrangement,** (black cosmos and ranunculus), from £40, inwaterflowers.co.uk. **Small hurricane lamp,** as before →

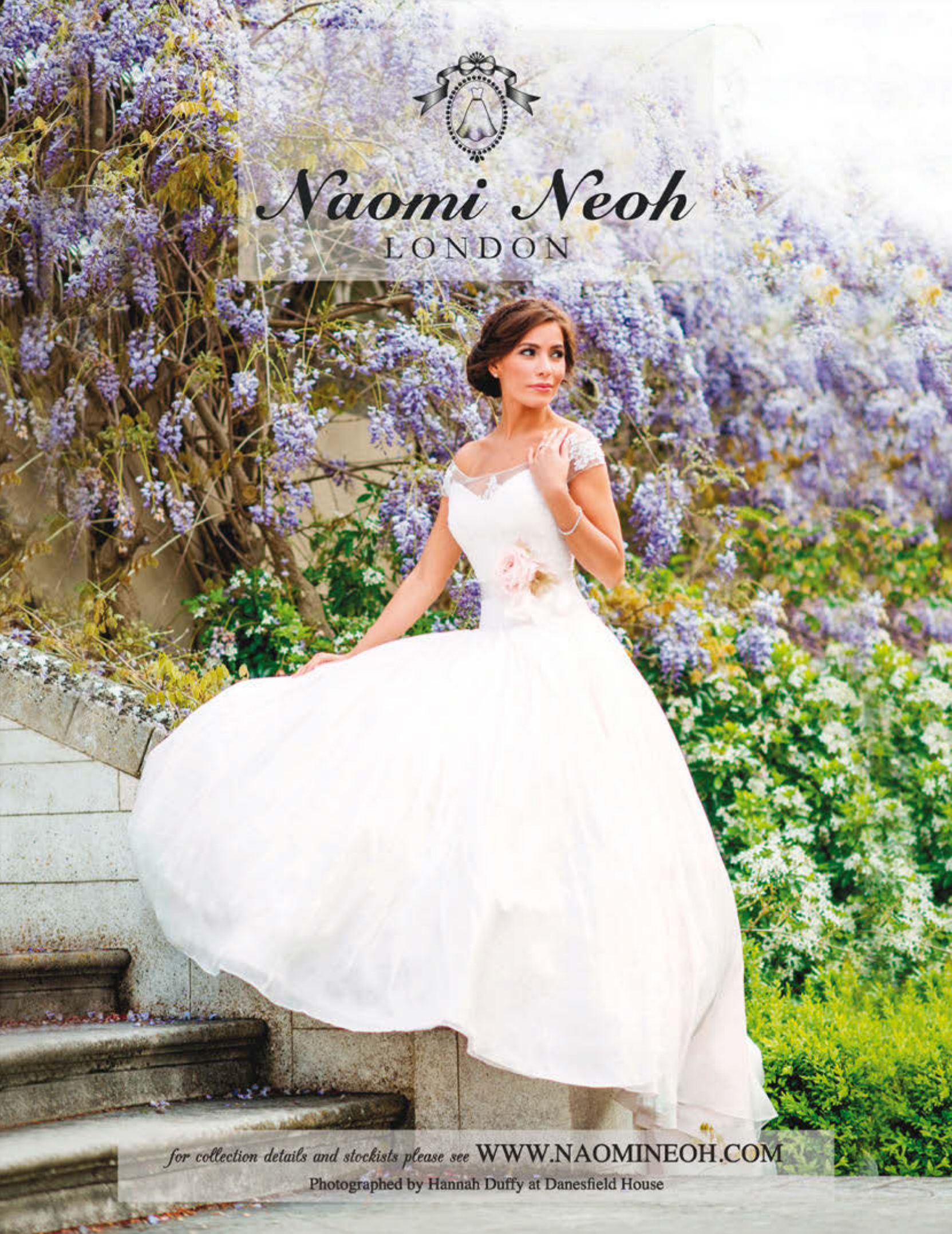


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THE BRIDAL PARTY **BRIDE: Tulle dress,** £5,408, Monique Lhuillier at brownsfashion.com/bride. **5.14ct diamond and yellow, rose and white-gold earrings,** £13,100, Alia Mouzannar for aamouzannar.com. **2.14ct diamond, iolite and rose-gold necklace,** £3,950, astleyclarke.com **MAIDS: Lilac satin dress,** £265, maidstomeasure.com. **Rose-gold and crystal earrings,** £257, mawi.co.uk. **Gold and sapphire necklace,** £395, dowerandhall.com. **Gold-plated crystal bangles,** £35 each, tedbaker.com. **Green satin dress,** £225, ghost.co.uk. **Crystal bead necklace,** £49, tedbaker.com. **Posies** (Moody Blue roses, berried ivy, skimmia and astrantias), from £20, inwaterflowers.co.uk. **Canvas backdrop,** as before →


Naomi Neoh
LONDON
for collection details and stockists please see WWW.NAOMINEOH.COM
Photographed by Hannah Duffy at Danesfield House



COCKTAILS *(Clockwise from top left)* **Crystal champagne coupe,** £300 for two, waterford.co.uk. **Black devore glass,** £30 for two, and **martini glass,** £40 for four, lsa-international.com. **Cocktails** and **mirrored tray,** as before →



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Lookbook











HEAD GARLAND (Peonies, Moody Blue roses, anemones, astrantias, ranunculus and berried ivy), from £175, inwaterflowers.co.uk. **Canvas backdrop** and **2.14ct diamond, iolite and rose-gold necklace,** as before **ESCORT CARDS** £4 each, paulantonioscribe.com. **String lights,** £15.50 for five metres, coxandcox.co.uk. **Heart bauble,** £10.36 for six, and **mixed baubles,** £29.95 for 24, nkuku.com. **Magenta baubles,** £9.95 for six, pipii.co.uk. **Ribbon,** 45p a metre, macculloch-wallis.co.uk **BAR TROLLEY** £359, westelm.co.uk. **Tall decanter,** £270, and **smaller decanter,** £250, waterford.co.uk. **Perrier-Jouët Belle Epoque,** £160, and **Perrier-Jouët Limited Edition Cuvée Belle Epoque Rosé 2005,** £248, harveynichols.com. **Crystal wine glasses,** £105 for two; **crystal tumbler,** £125 for two, and **crystal bowl,** £170, waterford.co.uk. **Cocktail napkins,** from £33.50 for 100, foilednapkins.co.uk. **Purple glass bottle,** £17.50, indiajane.co.uk. **Glass bottle,** £8.95, dotcomgiftshop.com. **Cocktail glasses; cocktails; crystal champagne coupes** and **canvas backdrop,** as before **PERFUME** **Mini tassel fragrances,** £30 for four, penhaligons.com. **Miniature fragrances,** £27 for five, lancome.co.uk. **Miniature fragrances,** £92, chanel.com. *(Top shelf)* **Antique diamanté bottle,** £95, graysantiques.com. *(Background)* **Large perfume bottle,** similar £44, laduree.com. **Silver stand,** £69, indiajane.co.uk **TABLE NUMBER** From £20, cutture.com. **Cutlery,** from £1.15 each, to hire, joneshire.co.uk. **Small hurricane lamp; large hurricane lamp; side plate; crystal wine glasses; glass bottle; crystal champagne coupes** and **tumblers** →


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BOUQUET (Peonies, David Austin Patience and Kate roses, Moody Blue roses, brassica, peonies, astrantias, senecio foliage, flowering mint, cosmos and ranunculus) from £200, inwaterflowers.co.uk. **Tulle dress; 2.14ct diamond, iolite and rose-gold necklace** and **canvas backdrop,** as before →


Creative Direction by www.kimjpalmer.com
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Lookbook





'The historical surroundings of Skinners' Hall, including this beautiful mahogany 18th-century East India table, are the perfect setting to the dark romantics theme.'

Laura Burkitt, *Brides* lifestyle stylist



MENU From £7.50 (plus £360 design fee), cutture.com. **Arrangement** (cosmos, double tulips, astrantias and viburnum berries), from £40, inwaterflowers.co.uk. **Napkin; charger plate; dinner plate; cutlery; crystal champagne coupe; tumbler** and **large hurricane lamp,** as before **TOP TABLE Flowers** (David Austin and Moody Blue roses, Senecio cineraria 'Silver Dust', parrot tulips, carnation 'Antigua', cosmos, ranunculus, eucalyptus, flowering mint, hydrangeas, clematis, peonies, anemones, miniature red snowberries and skimmia), from £1,500, inwaterflowers.co.uk. **Placemats,** £1.08 each, to hire, joneshire.co.uk. **Dinner plates,** £85 each, and **side plates,** £95 each, royalcrownderby.co.uk. **Small plates; cutlery; napkins;crystal wine glasses; crystal champagne coupes; tumblers; glass bottle; table numbers; large hurricane lamp; trinket boxes** and **charger plates,** as before **DETAILS Antique piano make-up compact,** £295, graysantiques.com. **Arrangement,** (miniature red snowberries, Anigozanthos 'Kanga Burgundy' and Harlequin roses), from £190, inwaterflowers.co.uk **BAUBLE Hanging glass bubble tealight,** £2.50, weddingmall.co.uk. **Magnolia branch arrangement** (kitchen twigs, magnolia branches, magnolia flowers and ferns), £300, inwaterflowers.co.uk **CAKE Midnight Garden cake,** £1,695 (serves 255), olofsondesign.com. **Cake server,** £126, l-objet.com. **Decorative bottle,** £18, indiajane.co.uk. **Arrangement,** (tulips, carnation 'Antigua', David Austin roses, cosmos and berries), from £100, inwaterflowers.co.uk. **Canvas backdrop** and **side plate,** as before B





HAIR: GUSTAV FOUCHE FOR MICHAEL VAN CLARKE (VANCLARKE.COM) USING 3 MORE INCHES. MAKE UP: SOPHIE MCMULLAN (BEAUTISSERIE.COM). MODELS: MARIEKE AT PROFILE-MODELS.COM, TYSON AT PREMIERMODELMANAGEMENT.COM, SOPHIE FRASER AND SKYLAR AT LENISMODELS.COM. PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANTS: JAMES DEACON AND JONATHAN STOKES. LOCATION: WITH THANKS TO SKINNERS' HALL. WEDDING PACKAGES FROM £3,200, SKINNERSHALL.COM


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Invite, £8.90, bellafigura.com

Blue & green...

...and everything in between. Say bonjour to eau de nil

Favour box, £3 for two, pipii.co.uk

Plate, £40, fortnumandmason.com

Rose headband, £20, crownandglory.co.uk

Glass votive, £3, pipii.co.uk

Eau de nil cake, from £595 (serves 130), thecakeparlour.com

Cake stand, £55, liberty.co.uk

Doilies, £4 for three, talkingtables.co.uk

Favour box, £2.75, iuyellenwedding invitations.co.uk

Printed tissues, £1.25 for five, confetti.co.uk

Paper pompom, £5, theweddingofmy dreams.co.uk

Invite, £1.80, foilinvite.co.uk

Invite, £3 each, emilyandjo.co.uk

Invite, £22.20, cecinewyork.com

Invite, POA, abigailwarner.com

Shiny happy paper

The biggest stationery trend for 2015? Foiling!

Invite, £6.50 (as part of a suite), amoretti.co.uk

Invite, £1.35, foilinvite.co.uk

Invite, £7.50, eagle eyedbride.com

Your cup of tea!

Add a brilliantly British touch to your day

Chocolate spoons, £11.80, conranshop.co.uk

Biscuit, £2, honeywellbakes.com

Cup candle, £7.99, dunelm-mill.com

Cake pop, £25.55 for eight, thecakepopcompany.co.uk

Spoon, £18 for six, justslate.co.uk

Candlestick, £12.99, dunelm-mill.com

STYLING: LAURA BURKITT. PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD (ALL PRODUCTS), HOT METAL STUDIO (FLOWERS), IRISH GRZANICH (CUP RACK)

We ♥ details

Destination details

You've booked the flights – now get the decor

CARIBBEAN

Plate, £24, alicepeto.com

Shell tealight, £5.48 for six, Happily Ever Vintage at etsy.com

Fan, £11.98 for six, confetti.co.uk

Invite with envelope, from £1.70, Paper Willow Design at etsy.com

Canapé picks, £3.99 for 48, rockettstgeorge.co.uk

Place holder, £19.55 for eight, confetti.co.uk

PARIS

Macaron favour, £3.10 a box, laduree.com

Invite suite, from £7, lucky-luxe.com

Paper tapes, £14 for five rolls, weddingin ateacup.co.uk

Wooden sign, £23.32 for two, My Primitive Boutique at etsy.com

Postcard invite, £1.90, and **place name,** £1.50, heartinvites.com

GREECE

Artificial olive tree, £29, notonthehighstreet.com

Evil-eye charm, £14.95 for four, zazzle.co.uk

Napkin, £36.95 for four, zazzle.co.uk

Serving dome, £35, rockettstgeorge.co.uk

Tie-dye napkin, £22, anthropologie.eu

Invite, £6.60, bespokepress.com.au

ITALY

Invite suite, from £2,000 for 60, louiserichardson.co.uk

Candle, £19.50, marksandspencer.com

Arrangement (garden and spray roses, phlox, freesias, olives and flowering eucalyptus), £150, wildatheart.com

Biscotti, £3.95, carluccios.com

Your dessert... on a stick!

Mess-free (we can't promise fat-free!)

Mint and vanilla shortbread, £2.50, kalmkitchen.co.uk

Chilli and dark chocolate-covered doughnut, £3, socialpantry.co.uk

Lemon and pistachio meringue, £2.50, ginger-jar-food.com

Prosecco, elderflower and raspberry jelly, £2.50, ginger-jar-food.com

Biscuit lollipop, £20 for five, beesbakery.co.uk

Chocolate-covered strawberry, £2.50, kalmkitchen.co.uk

Salted caramel popcorn cake, £2, ginger-jar-food.com

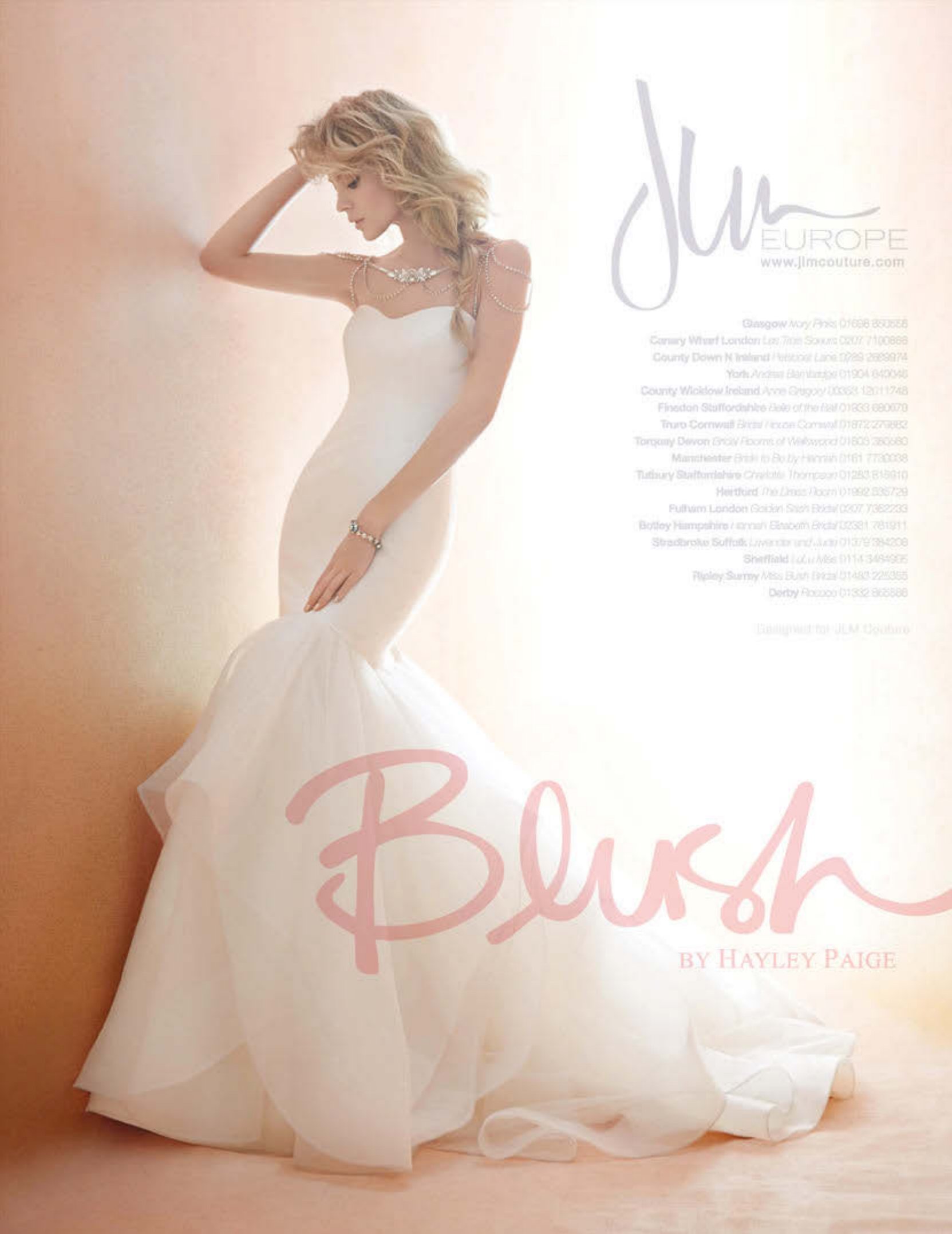
Rosewater macaron, £3, socialpantry.co.uk

Cake pop, £3, popbakery.co.uk

Brownie, £2.50, kalmkitchen.co.uk →

PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD (ALL PRODUCTS), SHAWN STARR PHOTO AND MICHELLE GARIBAY EVENTS (PLANT TABLECENTRE), JOSE VILLA (EIFFEL TOWER), DEBI TRELOAR (TOP TABLE)


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Stradbroke Suffolk *Lavender and Lace* 01379 384208
Sheffield *Lulu Mae* 0114 3491905
Ripley Surrey *Miss Bush Bridal* 01483 225355
Derby *Rococo* 01332 865566

Designed for JLM Couture

Blush

BY HAYLEY PAIGE

We ♥ details





On the menu

Make a meal of your wedding breakfast









Wooden forks, £2.49 for four, pipii.co.uk





Buttonhole, £9.50, Ribbons and Tulle at etsy.com



Chocolates, £1.20 each, meringuegirls.co.uk



Graphic novelties

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Save the date, £16.19 for a digital copy, Awkward Affections at etsy.com





Invite, £16.27 for a digital copy, Aurora Graphic Studio at etsy.com



Mondrian cake, from *Modern Art Desserts* by Caitlin Freeman (Ten Speed Press, £18.99)



Crêpe paper, £1.95 for five, pipii.co.uk



Confetti, £2, Lewisian Nice at etsy.com



Pop the question!

The other one, that is...



Wildflower card, £4, Victoria Snape at etsy.com



Bracelet, £4.95, Oswell & Rose at etsy.com



Message box, £9.76 Pamela Loops at etsy.com



Balloon card, £3.50, notonthe highstreet.com

Earrings, £12, notonthe highstreet.com



Notebook, £4.99, notonthehighstreet.com





Cookie, £7.99 for three biscuits, thecookie collaboration.co.uk

Necklace, £30, weddingina teacup.co.uk →



PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD (ALL PRODUCTS), ALISE TAGGART, ARCHETYPE PHOTOGRAPHY AND ATHENEUM CREATIVE, JOIE DE VIE PAPERIE AT ETSY.COM, FABMOOD.COM, THE TIE THAT BINDS ME, MADEMOISELLE FIONA, WHITE KLUM STUDIO (MENUS FROM TOP), ASHLEY ANN PHOTO (FLOWERS), TAKE IT PERSONALLY BY CHRISTINE (INVITE)

We ♥ details

Cake, POA (serves 40), rosalindmiller cakes.com

Favour, £38 for 10, notonthehighstreet.com

Invite suite, £22.20, cecinewyork.com

Scented candle, £30, urbanapothecary london.com

Wax seal, £3.99 for five, confetti.co.uk

Boudoir chic

Rose petals, pearls and luxe details make for a glamorous do

Drink dispenser, £398, anthropologie.eu

Table pearls, £4.99 a box, gingerray.co.uk

Silver napkin holder, £49.99 for four, notonthe highstreet.com

Chocolates, £19.66 for 24, laduree.com

Personalised printed rose, £24.95, rococorose.co.uk

Favour boxes, £15.48 for 10, confetti.co.uk

Be our guest

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£37, notonthe highstreet.com

£24.95, illustries.com

£36.99,notonthe highstreet.com

£45, Mary Loves Bob at etsy.com

£99, boundbyhand.co.uk

£32, weddingin ateacup.co.uk

Framed messages, £75, bombus.co.uk

Polaroid cards, 50p each, noton thehighstreet.com

PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD (ALL PRODUCTS), SMS PHOTOGRAPHY AND FLORA FETISH (BOUQUET), MICHELE M WAITE, JEFF REEDER, SARAANDROCKY.COM, WHITE RABBIT STUDIO (FLOWERS FROM LEFT)

Move over, bouquet!

Forget large arrangements. Single flowers are so simple and chic


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STEP-BY-STEP STYLING FOR DIY BRIDES



Natasha Collins, owner of Nevie-Pie Cakes, is the creator of these stunning painterly designs. Here, the illustrator-turned-cake-artist shares her secrets, from her upcoming book *The Painted Cake*



Basic rose cake

'I have painted very few wedding cakes that don't contain a rose or two as part of the design,' says Natasha. When it comes to creating a flawless rose, she advises 'make sure the centre of the rose is at least three tones darker than the lightest point'.

YOU WILL NEED:

- A 200mm cake
- Paintbrushes, sizes 8 and 4
- Tracing paper
- Rose template (see bridesmagazine.co.uk/neviepie)
- Food colouring: Pink, blue, purple, soft green, bright green, white, green, yellow, dark brown

1 **Use a pale tone of brown food colouring** to sketch out the layout of the design onto your cake fondant. Each group of flowers will consist of two roses, a cluster of forget-me-nots and leaves, but, for now, only sketch out circles to indicate the rose flowers. Leave a 50mm gap around each group for the leaves. Once the sketch is done, use the templates and tracing paper to transfer the flower outlines. Enlarge the templates by 140% using a photocopier or in your printer settings.

2 **Mix up a very pale pink tone,** then use your size 8 brush to paint the petals of the first rose, layering strokes on top of one another. Add leaves around this flower in soft green, then use a darker pink to create the first layer for the second rose. Use light tones of blue and purple for the first layer of forget-me-nots. The flowers each have five petals, which should not meet in the middle, to leave space for the yellow centre. Do not leave a gap between the forget-me-nots and rose as this will look unnatural. To complete the layer, fill in the rest of the leaves in light tones of soft green and bright green.

3 **Mix up a slightly darker tone of pink,** and work it into the centre of the first rose. Add some darker pink to create a shadow effect. Then use an even darker tone of pink for the next layer of the second rose, again focusing on the centre and the darkest part of the bloom. Add neat blue and purple to a few forget-me-not petals. Paint detail onto the leaves in neat soft green.

4 **On the light side of the first rose,** add a few strokes of white (don't go overboard). With neat pink, give the rose centres more definition. Paint in extra detail on a few leaves in neat dark green. Give the centre of each forget-me-not a yellow dot.

5 **Once dry, add neat brown to the very centre of the roses** and a few strokes on the leaves. With a size 4 brush, paint dots of neat purple onto the centre of the forget-me-not petals. →

Try *this* now!



Rose toppers

Add these simple painted decorations to ready-made, iced cupcakes for a lovely handmade touch to your wedding. 'These toppers are so pretty and very easy to make,' says Natasha.

YOU WILL NEED:

- 12 cupcakes decorated with pale pink buttercream swirls
- Paintbrushes, size 0 and 4
- 100g sugar modelling paste
- Circle cutter measuring about 5.5cm
- Small rolling pin
- Foam mat
- Topper template (see bridesmagazine.co.uk/neviepie)
- Food colouring: Pink, dark pink, white, soft green, dark green, brown

1 Colour the edible sugar modelling paste a dark pink. Roll it to a thickness of 2mm and cut out 14 circles (make extra in case of breakage). Leave to dry on the foam.

2 Reduce the template for the Single Rose Cake template by 50% and transfer the designs onto the prepared discs using tracing paper (or paint them freehand if you wish).

3 Mix up a very pale pink tone and, with your size 4 brush, create the petals of the single rose, making sure you paint the rose in the centre of the disc. Paint the rosebuds onto a disc for the second design, leaving space for the leaves. Add the stalks of the wreath. If the stalks are not fine enough, use the size 0 brush. Paint in the first layer of leaves in pale green.

4 Mix up a slightly darker pink tone and work into the centre of the single rose. Add some of the darker pink to create the effect of shadow.

5 Paint soft green onto the leaves, towards the leaf veins.

6 Add a few strokes of white onto the lighter side of the single rose. You can also add white highlights to the leaves.

7 Use dark pink to paint the centre of the rose and add a few strokes of this colour to one side of the flower. Paint a very small amount of dark pink on the rosebuds to indicate shadow.

8 Press the discs down gently but firmly onto the buttercream. Attach discs with a water and icing sugar solution. →





SIGNATURE

JUSTIN ALEXANDER

Try *this* now!







'For a quirky alternative to a cake topper, have stylish silver candles to blow out before you cut the cake!'
Laura Burkitt,
Brides lifestyle stylist

Lace design

If the thought of making your own wedding cake is daunting, then try this pretty creation, which is surprisingly simple. 'You can use any lace impression mat or mould that you can source,' says Natasha.

YOU WILL NEED:

- A 150 mm cake covered in ivory fondant
- Paintbrush, size 4, and a brush for gluing
- 200g edible modelling paste
- Confectioners' glue
- Tracing paper
- Non-toxic pencil
- Scalpel
- Extruder (tool for squirting out 'strings' of modelling paste)
- Lace template (see brides magazine.co.uk/neviepie)
- Lace mat (for various designs, go to cakecraftworld.co.uk)
- Food colouring: Grey, black, dark blue, light blue

1 Colour the modelling paste light grey – add a small amount of colour at a time, and knead well.

2 Roll out the modelling paste into a thin ribbon that is long enough to reach all the way around the cake. Put the lace mat on top of the paste and press down firmly, then remove it. If you cannot see the pattern of the lace clearly enough, you will need to start again from the beginning.

3 Carefully cut around the scalloped edge of the pattern with a scalpel (1), then cut the other opposite edge in a neat straight line.

4 Brush glue around the top edge of the side of the cake, and stick the modelling paste lace onto the cake, aligning the straight edge of your cut-out with the top of the cake (2). Trim off any excess.

5 Brush a thin line of glue around the top of the lace ribbon of paste.

6 'Let down' a small amount of the grey modelling paste (this means mix a little water into it until it becomes less stiff). Then, using a medium round hole on the extruder, squeeze out a string of the grey paste around the top of the cake, keeping the join at the back.

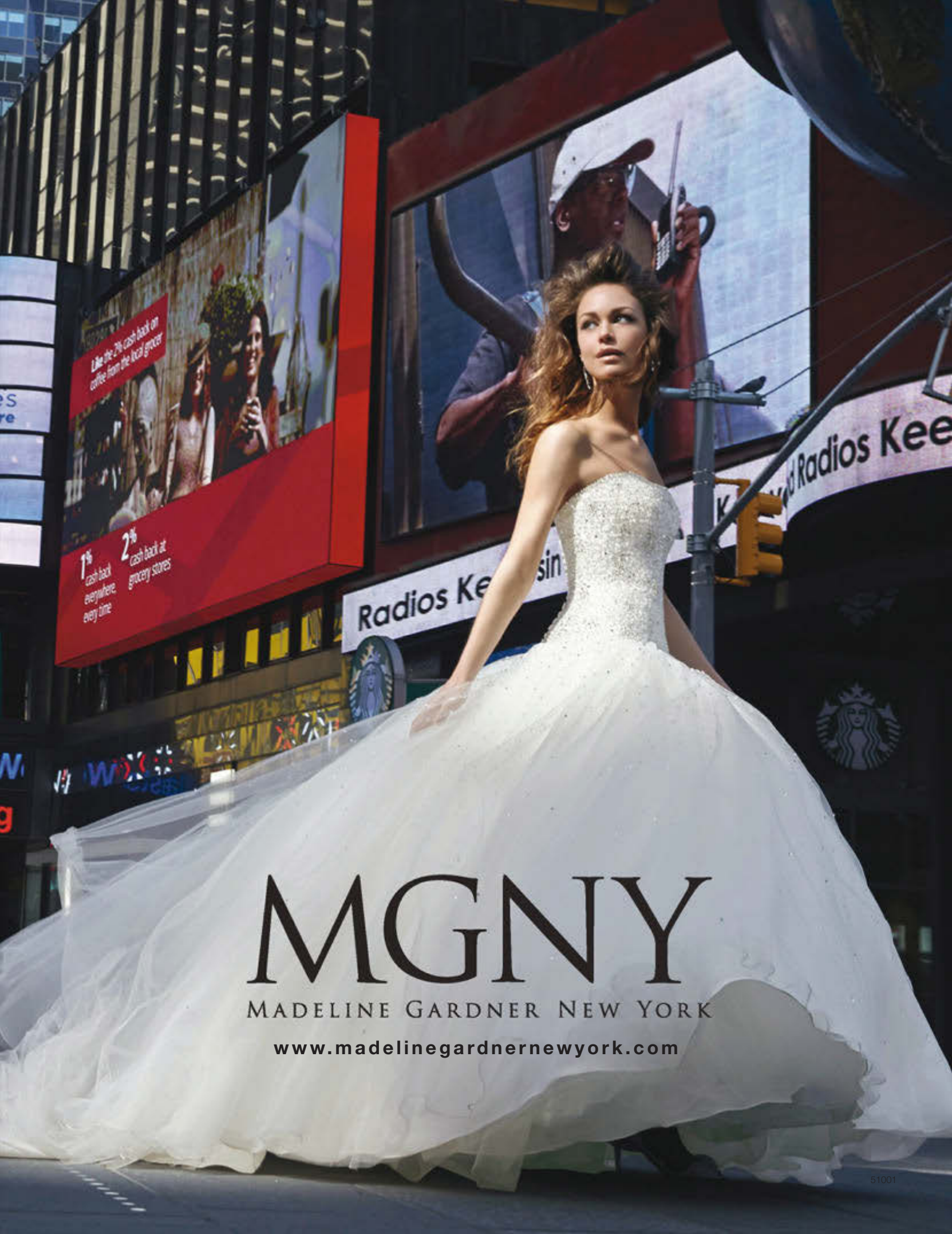
7 Repeat the above process for the second strip of lace, sticking it to the bottom edge of the cake, and glue a length of the extruded modelling paste at the base of the lace.

8 Enlarge the floral template by 150% on the photocopier or in your printer settings. Trace the template design onto tracing paper, then transfer the pattern to run around the centre of the side of the cake.

9 Use the size 4 paintbrush to paint the flowers, leaves and stalks in a pale grey.

10 Use the dark and light blues to add definition and shadow to the flowers and leaves.

11 Mix together a small amount of the grey and black to use in the very centre of the flowers, and a little touch on some of the leaves. →


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Try *this* now!









Love-heart cookies

These sweet treats are the perfect DIY favour, 'and great to give someone who has gone that extra mile – you can tailor them so they're truly personalised,' says Natasha.

YOU WILL NEED:

- 20 cookies, cut into circles about 70-80mm
- Paintbrush, size 4, and a brush for gluing
- 750g fondant
- Confectioners' glue
- Circle cutter about 70-80mm
- A heart cutter small enough to fit inside the fondant circle
- An alphabet stamp set
- Colours: Soft green, pink, orange, yellow

1 Colour 150g of the fondant **pale pink,** 150g pale green, 150g pale yellow and 150g pale orange; leave the remaining fondant white. Dip a cocktail stick into the food colour to introduce it gradually to the fondant, so that you don't over-colour it and make it too dark – you want to achieve beautiful pastel tones.

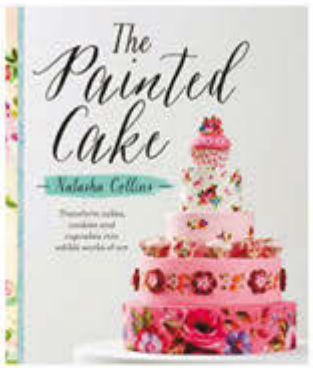
2 Roll out the fondant to a thickness of 3-4mm. Cut out circles and glue them to the cookies. You don't need to leave the fondant to dry out – you can print onto it immediately.

3 Paint the neat pink colour onto the edge of the heart cutter (1). Make sure you use the wrong side (not the cutting side) as it has a thicker edge.

4 Press the painted edge onto the fondant-covered cookie (2).

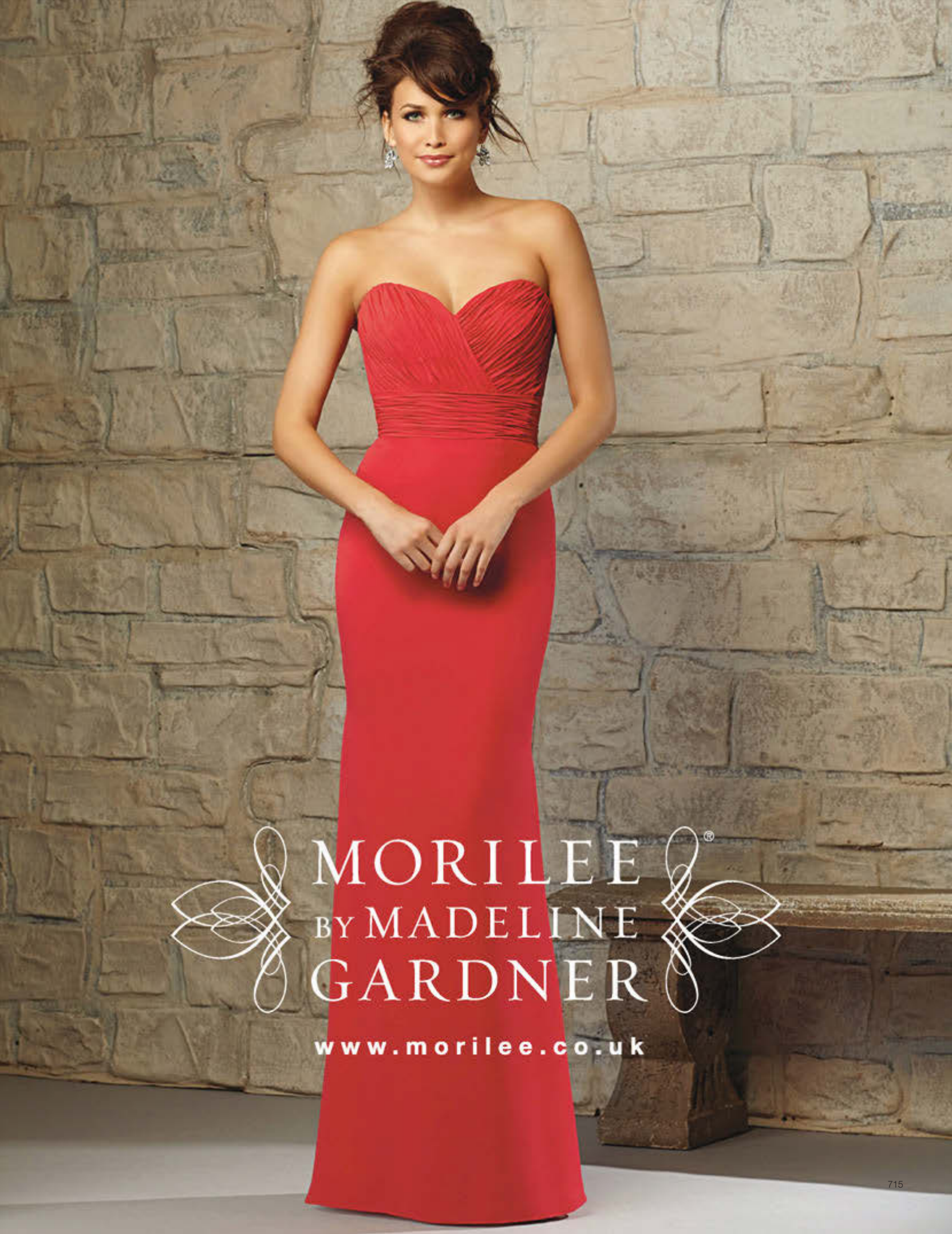
5 Decide on the motto you want to press into the cookie. Using the alphabet stamps (3), start by printing the middle letter of the word (for the first word, if you have more than one). Say you want to print 'tweet me', with 'tweet' on the first line, choose the first letter 'e', print this in line with the middle of the heart, then add the letters 'tw' and 'et' on either side, working outwards. This avoids lopsided messages. If you have an even-lettered word, the middle will be the gap between your letters.

6 Leave the cookies out to dry before you give them to your loved one(s). B



Extracts taken from *The Painted Cake* by Natasha Collins, published by Murdoch Books (£16.99)

PHOTOGRAPHS: NATHAN PASK


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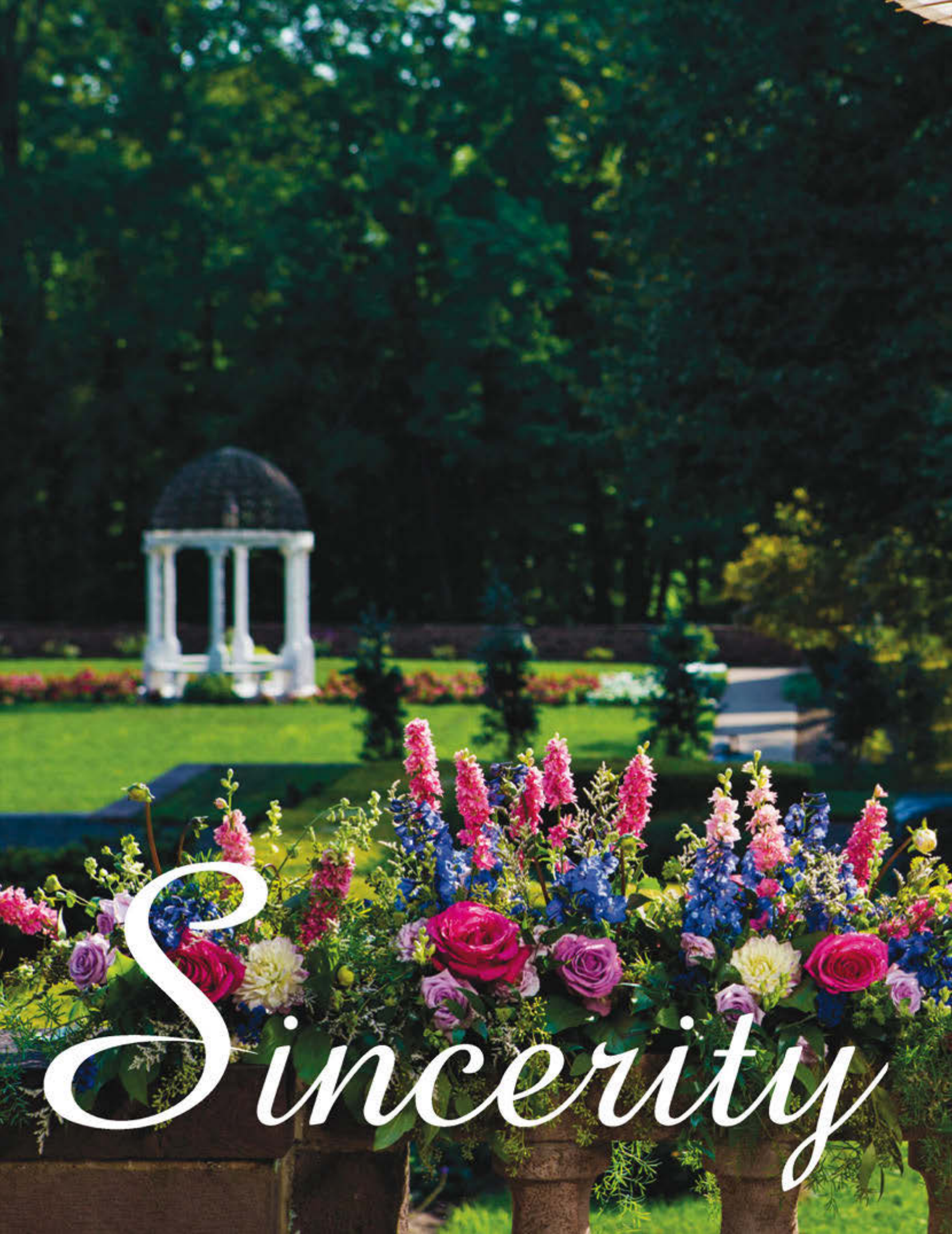
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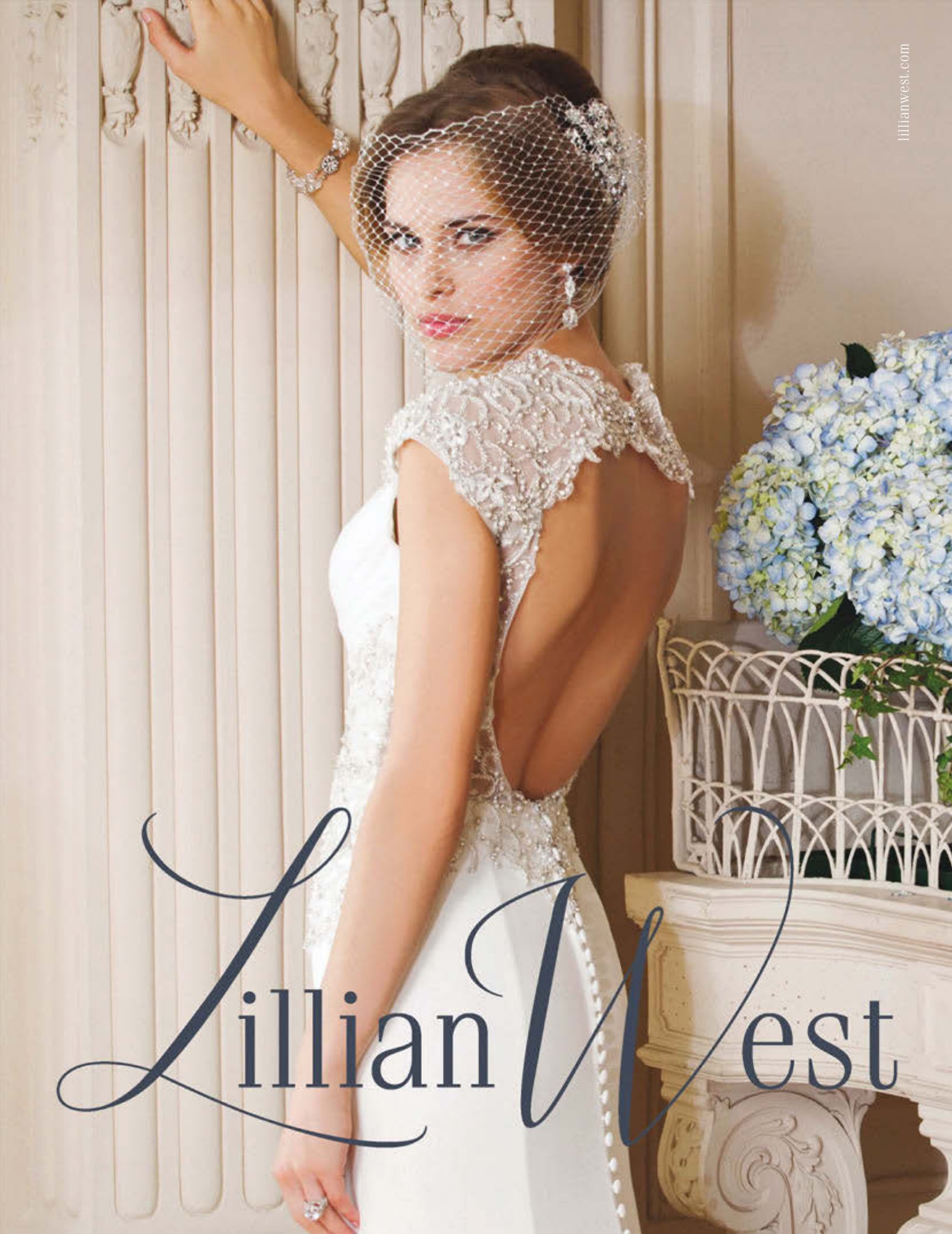




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My beauty wishlist



'Yep, **both** these photos are **me...**'

So says our deputy editor Claudia Waterson, who underwent three months of treatments and procedures to solve all her beauty woes – and to enlighten YOU about what's worth investing in and what's not. The results are *staggering*

Portraits **NATO WELTON**



WHO KNEW THAT AFTER THREE MONTHS TESTING BEAUTY TREATMENTS AND PRODUCTS I would look *this* good? Not me! I wouldn't say I hated the way I looked before but there have always been things about my face that bothered me. So, putting myself in the place of a bride-to-be, I wondered, would I be happy to get wed without addressing them? The answer, honestly, was no. My main areas of 'beauty angst' were my nose (broken) and teeth (wonky). Also, my skin had been neglected for the past 20 years (laziness), and I was showing signs of ageing. But could I expect a skincare routine or two-minute nose job to change that? An email to the best beauty journalists, and I had my shortlist of what to buy, who to see and where to go. Here are the results, wrinkles, frown lines and all. →

Brides deputy editor, Claudia Waterson, 36, before embarking on this feature (far left), and (above) after all her treatments

The products



A thorough skincare regime is a no-brainer for a fab complexion

IT TURNS OUT IF YOU BUY THE RIGHT PRODUCTS for you and use them correctly, they *will* work. I've never stuck with a regime long enough to see the benefits, but after three weeks of using this potent combo, my parched skin looks undeniably better (plumper, smoother, more even). While cleansing is the norm for most of us, it's easy to overlook toner and exfoliator. But this, it seems, is when the magic happens: both help to remove dead skin cells, to reveal a fresh layer of skin underneath, which in turn helps with the absorption of other products. Cost-wise, the firming mask is pretty hefty but it is obvious why; almost immediately my skin looks plumped and hydrated, and stays that way all day. I would definitely buy this combination of wonder creams again.

CONCLUSION Once you get past the nearly £500 price tag, and the chore of sticking to the regime, you can't deny the results. After the 28-day trial, my fine lines are reduced and I looked less tired. Take *that* wed-min insomnia.

Anti-Age Day Cream SPF 30, £144, laprairie.co.uk • **Hydrating Eye Cream,** £32, bobbibrown.co.uk • **Advanced Night Repair,** £49, esteelauder.co.uk • **Secret De Pureté Gentle Polishing Exfoliator,** £34, Guerlain at houseoffraser.co.uk • **Pore Minimizing Serum,** £26, clarins.co.uk • **The Lifting and Firming Mask,** £150, cremedelamer.co.uk • **Intral Toner,** £27, darphin.co.uk • **Intral Cleansing Milk,** £27, darphin.co.uk

Cost: £489

The treatments

Refine your looks in a matter of hours...

A HAIR COLOUR-OVER Cost: £140

I HAVE FLITTED BETWEEN BLONDE HIGHLIGHTS AND BRUNETTE my whole life. I *hate* this brown (see previous page) but can I go back to blonde without frying my hair? Siobhan Jones, colour ambassador at Headmasters, suggests an ombre effect, a graduated colour using Balayage – where colour is applied freestyle by hand. It's less harsh than highlights because the hair is not in foils, which warm bleach and damage hair, and it also gives quick results. 'Ombre is about blending your natural tones through to lighter ends,' says Siobhan. So in my case, my brown roots remain and blonde is applied around my face, the mid lengths and ends of my hair: the effect is 'blonde', without the damage of highlights.

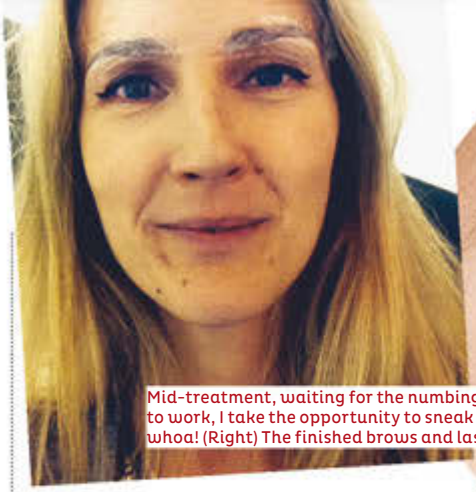
CONCLUSION The joy of this 'colour-over' is that in one, one-hour session, I can be blonde again. And thanks to the small amount of colour being applied, the condition of my hair is silky, not crispy. I swear I will *never* have highlights again!

Completely Gorgeous colour services, from £110, headmasters.com →



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Mid-treatment, waiting for the numbing cream to work, I take the opportunity to sneak a peek... whoa! (Right) The finished brows and lashes

BROW'N'LASH UPGRADE
Cost: £608

ANY BEAUTY EDITOR WILL TELL YOU: brows structure your face, but great brows can transform it. After years of filling mine with pencil, I was ready to take the semi-permanent step. Initial anxiety subsides as I quiz Priya from Browhaus about my 90-minute Brow Resurrection. Are needles involved? Yes. Is there pain? Minimal. And the results? Fab brows for up to two years. Using a dark pencil, Priya draws on the brows she thinks my face can take; I suggest a few tweaks. (FYI she has no problem telling clients if she thinks that the shape they want is wrong – which is reassuring, given the semi-permanent nature of the treatment.) Tweaks made, numbing cream applied, colour chosen… it's show time! The 'needle' is a line of seven tiny needles that make a mark like an individual hair. Priya tattoos over my mock brows, filling in sparse spots. It's a light tugging feeling. The 50 minutes fly by, and Priya enquires if I'm happy with the shape. Yes, but the shock of seeing mega brows on *my* face is *huge*. (For the first two weeks, my brows are *bold* but fade as the micro-sized scabs heal.) During the Tube journey home, I'm so self-conscious but the next day, and a load of compliments later, it's a different story. I feel groomed, expensive even! Two weeks on and I can't imagine not having these low-maintenance lovelies on my face. At a second, one-hour appointment, I have individual lash extensions. Each artificial lash is glued to my own, for a fuller, fluttery effect that last up to three weeks.

CONCLUSION The new brows have helped define my face. Perfect for a bride-to-be who wants to look glossy on the big day, and on the beach afterwards. The lashes looked great on day one, but by day four I felt grubby (you have to avoid water, make-up remover etc). I can see why a bride-to-be might want them for her honeymoon, but they are one step too far for this beauty commitment-phobe.

Brow Resurrection, £550 and lashes, from £58, browhaus.com

The A-list facial Cost: £200

CELEBRITY FACIALIST SU-MAN DOESN'T MINCE HER WORDS; my skin is dehydrated and the muscles are tight, which explains my dull skin. After a steam and extraction, she goes to work using her specially devised massage technique. 'Massage will open up the energy channels in your body to reinvigorate, lift and sculpt your skin,' she says, as her hands tap their way across my face. Next, a gel-like mask from her eponymous skincare range. As the mask sinks in, the focus turns to my feet and more energy corralling. I can feel my body tingle – could the energy *really* be flowing to my face?! I ask Su-Man the secret to great skin: 'A combination of facials, great skincare, exercise, diet and laughing… a lot!' she smiles. Sound advice from a woman who looks 30 at 51. The treatment ends and I'm handed a mirror. Radiant is the word, with zero redness or blotchiness.

CONCLUSION A week later, I can still see the Su-Man effect. The grainy texture of my skin has smoothened. It looks velvety smooth.

Su-Man Skin Reborn Sculpting Facial, £200 for 60 minutes, The W Hotel Away Spa at awayspalondon.com/su-man



Velvet Skin Brightening Serum, £98, su-man.com



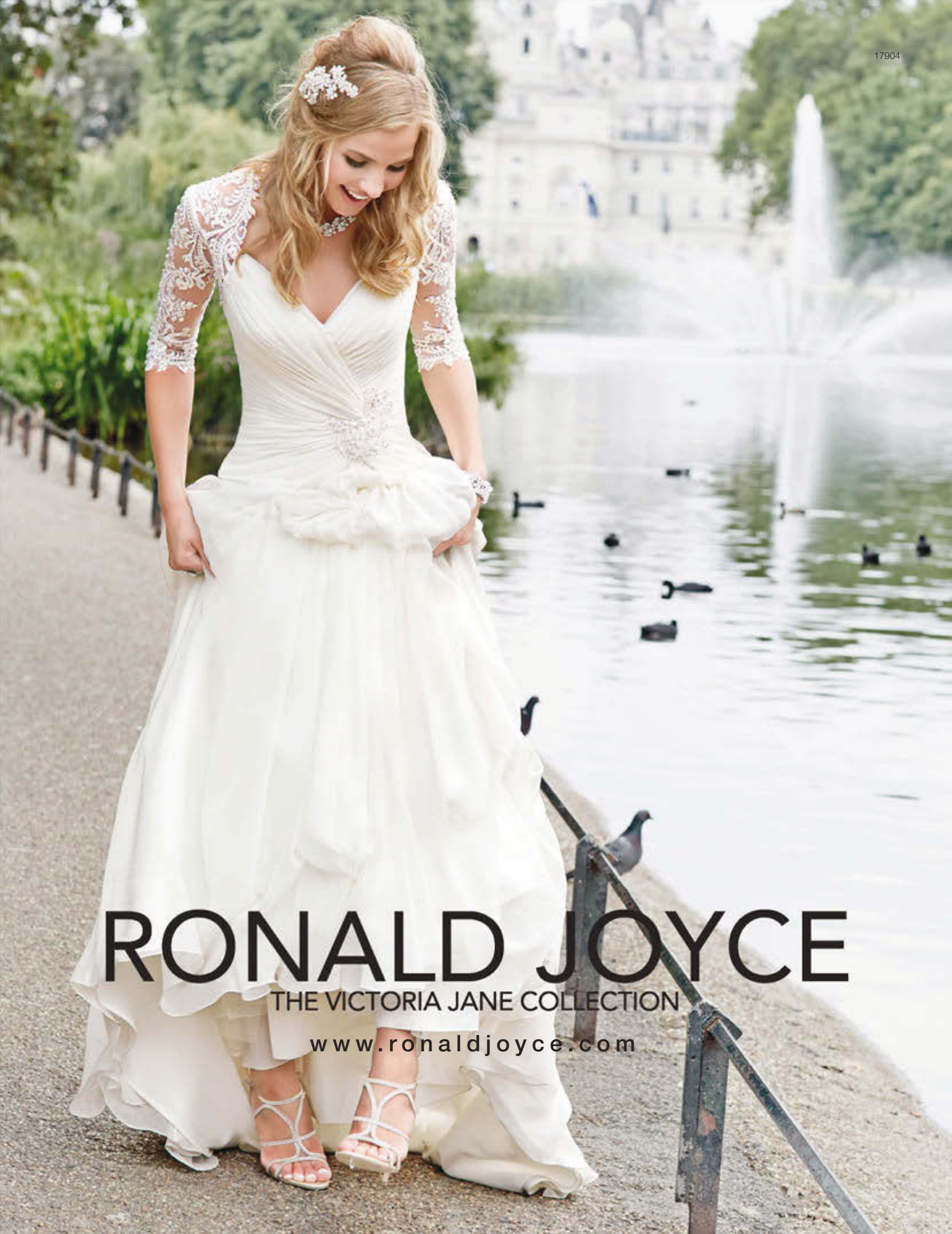
After two weeks of whitening treatment, Dr Uchenna Okoye compares my original tooth colour with my new smile

THE 'PERFECT' SMILE
Cost: £2,379

SMILING ON YOUR BIG DAY ISN'T MUCH TO ASK but what if, like me, your teeth aren't quite bridal ready? Cue celebrity cosmetic dentist Dr Uchenna Okoye and her Quick Fix Bridal Makeover. 'A bride should start planning her smile as soon as she gets engaged,' advises Dr Okoye. But if that isn't possible, the Quick Fix is 'a fast, effective way to reshape the smile, in as little as two sessions'. With my uneven teeth, this I *have* to see. First up, a deep clean; hygienist Shelley tells me I have the start of gum disease (oh, the shame), then gives me a strict regime to follow at home – floss, floss, floss! At my next appointment, I'm fitted for bespoke whitening trays and given syringes of gel, to begin treatment that same evening. The first few nights aren't great; my sensitive teeth fizz on contact with the gel and I start to dread using it. But after a week, the discomfort is negligible. Two weeks in and my teeth are 11 shades lighter! Teeth gleaming, my final one-hour appointment is for 'bonding', where the snagged edges of my teeth are smoothed and gently rounded, giving the appearance of a straighter smile; this is predicted to last up to five years.

CONCLUSION My smile, and confidence, have improved, without the lead time of major orthodontics. For a bride needing results – fast – the Quick Fix is a great solution.

Consultation, £150; x-rays, £180; teeth whitening, £495; two hygiene treatments, £330, and tooth binding, £204 per tooth, londonsmiling.com →

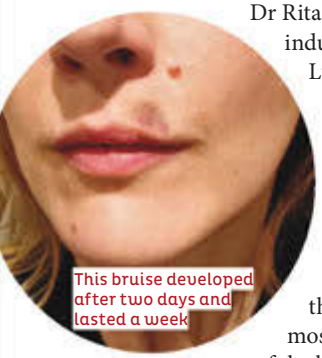

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The procedures

Fillers, injectables, Botox... are not for the faint-hearted

MY LIPS, ONLY FULLER Cost: £660

I HAVE A SMALL MOUTH AND I HAVE ALWAYS ENVIED WOMEN WITH FULLER LIPS. That said, the thought of having a perma-pout is *terrifying*! So when I meet with Dr Rita Rakus, dubbed The Lip Queen by beauty industry folk, I'm quick to clarify this point. Luckily, lip enhancement the Dr Rakus way is subtle. Dr Rakus explains that I would benefit from Emervel Classic Dermal Filler treatment; she will smooth out the creases between my nose and lips, and then enhance my upper lip 'to improve symmetry'. The anaesthetic cream goes on, and 45 minutes later, I'm ready. Of all the treatments, this turns out to be the most uncomfortable. I expect the same 'tug' of the brow tattoo needles. I wish. This is far more painful, I can feel the needles penetrating my lips. And there's blood. Within five minutes, I'm holding an ice pack to my bloodied mouth 'for the swelling'. I feel odd, floaty… it's shock, I think. I was *not* expecting that. But when I look in the mirror, I'm really pleased. My lips are fuller, albeit a tad angry but that will ease in a few hours. The fuller effect should last between six months and a year.



This bruise developed after two days and lasted a week

CONCLUSION Despite the bruise, my upper lip is fuller yet *so* natural looking. Some 36 years of average lips and now I have a pout I can paint.

Emervel Classic Dermal Filler Lip treatment, from £660 per injectable, drritarakus.com



Pre-procedure selfie, a definite bend in my nose

In seconds, my nose is straighter. Love, love, love it!

A 'new' nose *(no anaesthetic required)* Cost: £495

A NETBALL IN THE FACE DURING CHILDHOOD has given my septum (the cartilage wall running the length of my nose) a funny angle ever since. It's subtle, and friends say they don't notice, but *I* do. Without major surgery, what's the solution? Renowned cosmetic specialist Dr Tapan Patel, medical director at the PHI Clinic in London, suggests non-surgical rhinoplasty, where filler is injected into the nose to correct deformities – like humps, a flat bridge or bends, like mine. 'It is one of the most common procedures I perform, with zero downtime,' says Dr Patel. There are risks, however. In countries where the procedure is unregulated, cases of instant blindness have occurred. But confident in Dr Patel's skill, I give him the green light. I can't lie, my heart is *thumping*. The thought of losing my sight is making me dizzy. I feel the scratch of the needle and stop breathing… During the two-minute, two-injection procedure, I open and shut my eyes, checking that I can still see. 'All done,' say Dr Patel. And… I can still see. I look at my nose in the mirror: it's not dead straight, but it's 80% straighter and I'm thrilled. If I hadn't been, Dr Patel could dissolve the filler. How long will it last? Over time, my body will naturally metabolise the product but that could take up to five years.

CONCLUSION For a self-conscious bride with an imperfect nose, it's an amazing treatment. Yes, the risks are real, and bloody scary, but in the hands of Dr Patel, I felt totally safe.

Non-surgical rhinoplasty, from £400, phiclinic.com

The 'liquid lift' Cost: £795

THE FIRST THING COSMETIC SPECIALIST DR MICHAEL PRAGER does is take my photo using his 3D scanning camera. It's freaky but, boy, is it clever. Using this technology, he can assess my face from all angles, which helps him quickly determine how he can enhance my looks. Over the past 10 years, Dr Prager has developed something called a 'liquid lift' to sculpt, tighten and contour the face. Using Botox, he injects my neck, forehead and jaw. Dr Prager explains: 'The 'lift' is a result of relaxing the muscles that pull down. The face is like a trampoline: there are muscles that pull up and then there are muscles that pull down. By relaxing the downward pulling muscles, we strengthen the muscles that pull up and create a lift. I can barely feel the tiny scratch of the three or four injections in my neck and jaw. Next, Dr Prager injects into my forehead, to counter my slightly droopy eyebrow – something Priya, who inked my brows, pointed out to me. By straightening my eyebrows, the symmetry of my face – and therefore my appearance – will be vastly improved. Leaving the clinic, I look a little red in places, and a week after my injections, I am still sporting a 50p-sized bruise on my neck. It takes two weeks to see the full effects of the Botox, which can last up to a year.



CONCLUSION By day three, I can see a difference but it's so subtle. My face looks slimmer, my cheeks higher, the space under my brows is wider and more youthful.

From £395 for forehead and £495 for lower face, drmichaelprager.com

I embarked on this feature with the mind of a writer who has worked in magazines a long time, and seen a million different beauty claims. And I was cautious I didn't become the Bride Of Wildenstein (Google it. Scary). But the results speak for themselves, I think. Even my other half was forced to admit I look better! The change in my confidence has been the real shock, though. (I didn't think that I was un-confident before?!) These treatments were right for me; they're subtle and pretty. It's about knowing what's right for you. And I challenge anyone not to say my face has improved.

Final cost: £5,766

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Pink, white, and yellow diamond eternity bands by Yael Joaillerie

Left: Contract faces earrings
Below: You & I ring
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Three band engagement ring by Yael Joaillerie

Below: Lightning passion ring by Yael Joaillerie

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Eternity ring and two piece diamond ring both by Ariane Arazi

ANASTAZIO FROM GREECE
Driven to make women feel desired and also empowered, we can see why this designer is one to watch!

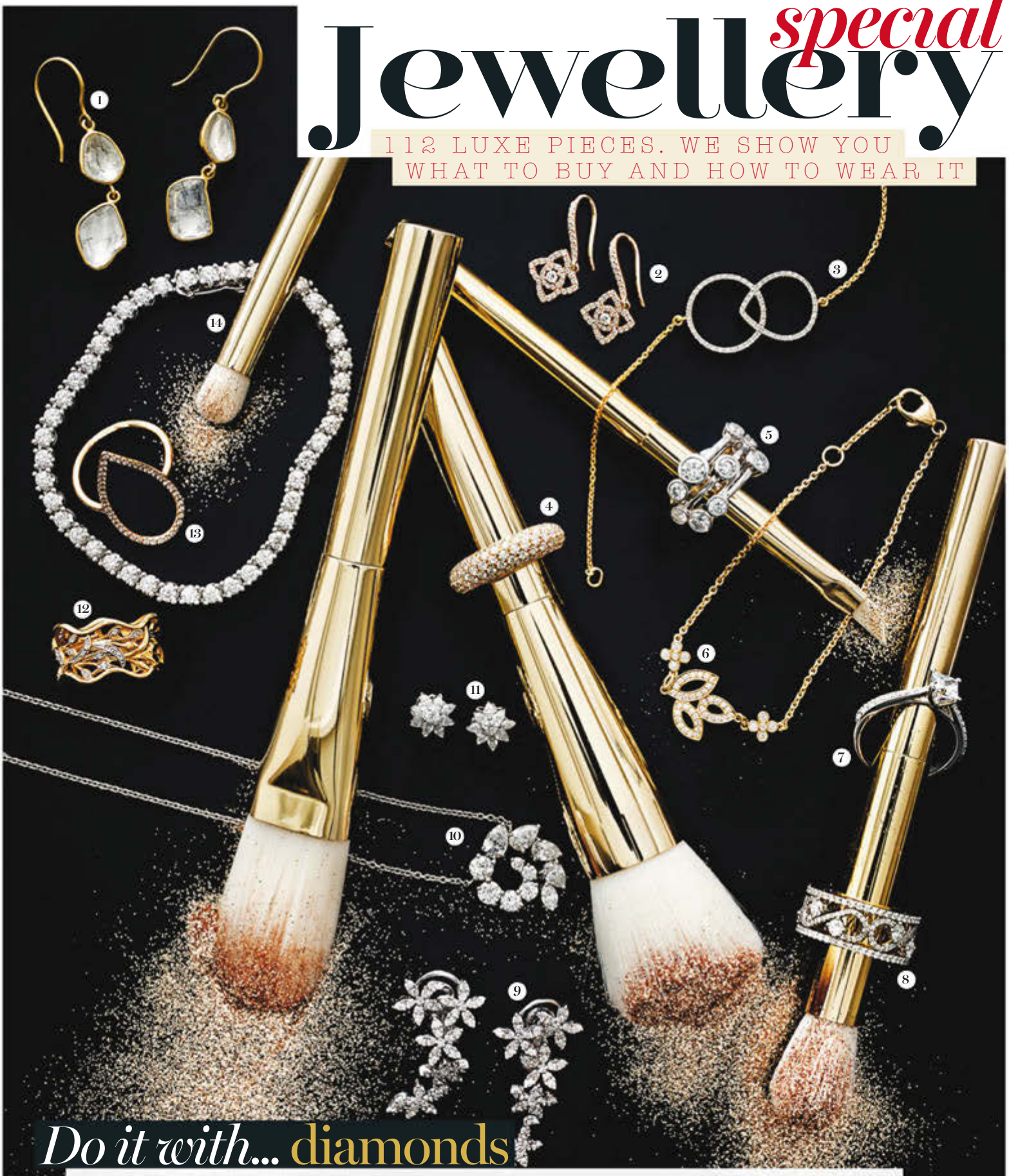
ALWAYS SEEKING NEW EXCITING JEWELLERY OPPORTUNITIES, *Brides* let out a yelp of joy when we scrolled through My Diamond Drop's gorgeous collections online. With the motto 'Born to Shine', the company believes in bringing out the beauty in every bride and collates creations from some of the most stylish designers across the globe. Boasting glamorous, contemporary pieces from more than ten designers, you can find Sex in the City-style pieces sourced from New York City, rock 'n' roll London styles or something exotic and alluring from their talented designers based in the Middle East. Plus, with a bespoke bridal service, it couldn't be easier to find the right combination for your big day – and whatever your style, rest assured, you'll find something unique; something one-off. Something that says forever.

WIN
£150 of jewellery!
Subscribe to the My Diamond Drop newsletter for your chance to win a £150 gift card to spend on My Diamond Drop. Competition ends: March 20, 2015. Visit mydiamonddrop.com to subscribe today!

For more information visit mydiamonddrop.com, Facebook: mydiamonddrop Instagram & Twitter: @MyDiamondDrop Or contact bespoke@mydiamonddrop.com for bridal advice

Jewellery special

112 LUXE PIECES. WE SHOW YOU WHAT TO BUY AND HOW TO WEAR IT



Do it with... diamonds

1 Diamond and gold earrings, £6,000, pippasmall.com **2** 0.40ct diamond and rose-gold earrings, £1,975, debeers.co.uk **3** 0.18ct diamond and gold-vermeil bracelet, £430, monicavinader.com **4** 1.23ct diamond and gold ring, £3,900, kiki.co.uk **5** 1.51ct diamond and platinum ring, £8,500, boodles.com **6** 0.3ct diamond and gold bracelet, £3,700, harrywinston.com **7** 0.89ct diamond and platinum ring, £3,109, Aurus at diamondandweddingrings.com **8** 1.38ct diamond and platinum ring, £7,975, tiffany.co.uk **9** 1.78ct diamond and white-gold earrings, £2,980, noafinejewellery.com **10** 0.93ct diamond and platinum necklace, £8,150, harrywinston.com **11** 0.88ct diamond and platinum earrings, £4,475, mappinandwebb.com **12** 0.08ct diamond and gold ring, £499, ernestjones.co.uk **13** 0.29ct diamond and rose-gold ring, £1,535, Diane Kordas at matchesfashion.com **14** 4.4ct diamond and white-gold bracelet, £17,700, bulgari.com →

Photographs **NATO WELTON** *Styling* **ASTRID JOSS**



Stellar *style*

1 0.1ct diamond and sterling-silver earrings, £19.99, tjc.co.uk **2 0.72ct diamond, coral, opal, mother-of-pearl and rose-gold ring,** £5,080, carolinabucci.com **3 0.95ct diamond, pearl and white-gold ring,** £9,950, chanel.com **4 Gold-plated necklace,** £610, Azza Fahmy for Matthew Williamson at azzafahmy.com **5 0.90ct diamond and white-gold necklace,** £4,450, theofennell.com **6 0.80ct diamond and white-gold earrings,** £8,500, chanel.com **7 0.80ct diamond and rose-gold earrings,** £4,160, Diane Kordas at matchesfashion.com **8 Gold-plated charm bracelet,** £19.99, tjc.co.uk **9 Ear cuff,** £3,090, Diane Kordas at harrods.com **10 0.1ct diamond and white-gold ring,** £700, dotjewellery.com



Our new candy crush

1 0.53ct diamond, sapphire and platinum ring, £9,350, tiffany.co.uk **2 0.14ct diamond, ruby, aquamarine and white-gold pendant,** £5,500, richardogden.com **3 0.14ct diamond, amethyst and white-gold ring,** £550, beaverbrooks.co.uk **4 White zirconia, rose quartz, sterling silver and rose-gold-plated ring,** £135, thomassabo.com **5 0.9ct diamond, spinel and rose-gold earrings,** £10,500, asprey.com **6 0.51ct diamond and rose de France ring,** £4,450, astleyclarke.com **7 0.28ct diamond, sapphire and platinum pendant,** from £8,300, davidmorris.com **8 0.46ct diamond, beryl, mother-of-pearl, sapphire and gold earrings,** £8,800, dior.com **9 0.63ct diamond, sapphire and white-gold ring,** £1,156, dotjewellery.com **10 Ruby, sapphire, tourmaline and gold ring,** £2,740, dowerandhall.com **11** (From top) **Green-garnet and gold ring,** £470; **amethyst and gold ring,** £470; **sapphire and gold ring,** £470; **ruby and gold ring,** £470; **0.20ct diamond and gold ring,** £640; **sapphire and gold ring,** £470, and **sapphire and gold ring,** £470, carolinabucci.com **12 2.44ct diamond, sapphire and rose-gold earrings,** £12,000, Amrapali at harrods.com **13 0.18ct diamond, gold, peridot and quartz bangle,** £3,200, kiki.co.uk **14 Topaz and gold ring,** £1,100, tiffany.co.uk **15 3ct simulated diamond ring,** £266, caratlondon.com **16 0.27ct diamond, gold and gemstone necklace,** £12,900, kiki.co.uk **17 0.43ct diamond, chrysoberyl and platinum ring,** £3,850, richardogden.com →



A big tick *for him and her*

1 Rose-gold watch, £11,100, harrywinston.com **2 White-gold watch,** £8,950, boodles.com **3 Brushed steel watch,** £2,195, tagheuer.com **4 Watch,** £60.50, swatch.com **5 Stainless-steel watch,** £99, Police at watchshop.com **6 Crystal and rose-gold watch,** £395, swarovski.com **7 0.91ct diamond, mother-of-pearl and white-gold watch,** £12,100, debeers.co.uk **8 Stainless-steel and leather watch,** £5,235, wempe.com **9 Rose-gold watch with mother-of-pearl dial,** £229, Michael Kors at beaverbrooks.co.uk **10 Steel watch with sapphire cabochon detail,** £3,600, boucheron.com **11 Quartz watch,** £2,900, dior.com **12 Rose-gold watch,** £210, caratlondon.com **13 Gold and leather watch,** £9,640, wempe.com. **Anya Hindmarch Limited Edition Ultimate Box,** £2,200, and **The Concentrate,** from £240, cremedelamer.co.uk

Let's wing it!

1 0.04ct diamond and gold bracelet, £495, kiki.co.uk **2 5ct (approx) diamond, silver and rose-gold brooch,** £7,500, richardogden.com **3 Gold bracelet,** £4,100, chanel.com **4 2.04ct diamond and white-gold earrings,** £11,650, stephenwebster.com **5 0.26ct diamond and gold earrings,** £1,700, kiki.co.uk **6 White-gold ring,** £374, dotjewellery.com **7 0.35ct diamond and white-gold necklace,** £2,050, stephenwebster.com **8 Simulated-diamond and Swarovski-crystal earrings,** £80, ivoryandcotiaras.co.uk **9 0.33ct diamond and gold necklace,** £1,600, kiki.co.uk **10 Simulated-diamond and Swarovski-crystal bracelet,** £110, ivoryandcotiaras.co.uk **11 Gold ring,** £2,000, chanel.com **12 White-gold vermeil ring,** £180, caratlondon.com **13 Topaz and gold drop earrings,** £145, dowerandhall.com →

Michael Rose

BURLINGTON ARCADE

Source of the Unusual





ASSCHER



TITAN

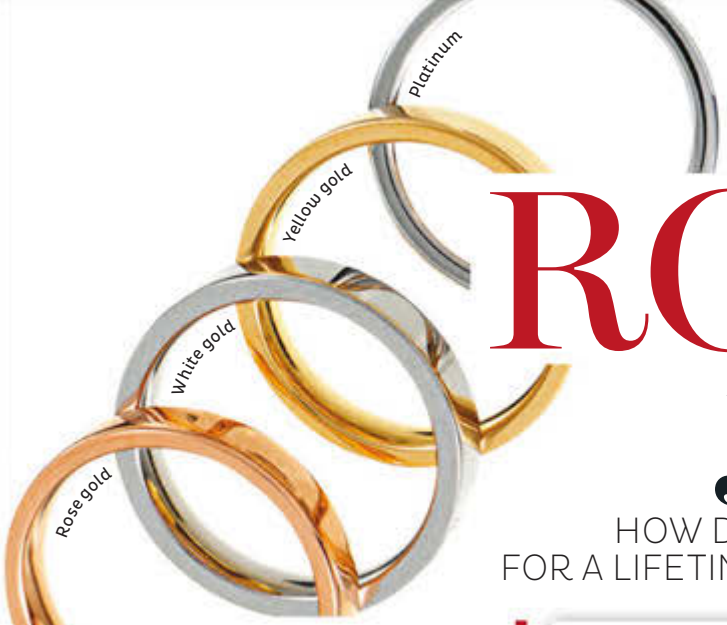


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ROCK IT *your way*

HOW DO YOU CHOOSE A RING YOU'LL LOVE FOR A LIFETIME? WITH *BRIDES*' EASY GUIDE, OF COURSE!

Step 1 Do the metal maths

PRECIOUS + HIGH-END = PLATINUM Hard-wearing and heavy, this is considered the most prestigious of metals, so it's the most expensive. Its strength and durability means it's the safest setting for diamonds. A platinum ring could be twice the price of an 18ct white-gold ring – it requires much less maintenance than silver or gold, and will not lose its colour. Scratches may build up through wear and tear, but these can be removed by polishing your ring. Suits paler skin tones.

CLASSIC + AFFORDABLE = GOLD There are several carats and colours of gold. The carat measures the proportion of pure gold mixed with other metals to make up the final metal. When comparing the price of colours in the same carat, white gold is normally more expensive than yellow or rose.

White gold Usually made of 18ct gold mixed with a white metal, which gives a hard and reflective finish. When new it has the same colouring as platinum and is less prone to scratches. However, re-plating may be required after several years to restore whiteness.

Yellow gold It won't tarnish, corrode or rust, and retains its shine and colour well. After several years of wear you may wish to have the ring re-plated to restore its brightness. Yellow and rose gold are normally approximately the same price. Suits warmer skin tones.

Rose gold Copper is mixed with gold to create rose gold. A popular choice, it keeps its warm tone throughout wear but can be re-plated to reinstate the original shine after long periods. Suits pinky hued skin tones.

■ *With thanks to David Allen at 77 Diamonds (77diamonds.com)*

PLATINUM RING, FROM £654; YELLOW-GOLD RING, FROM £344; WHITE-GOLD RING, FROM £428, AND ROSE-GOLD RING, FROM £363, WEDDINGRINGS-DIRECT.COM. PHOTOGRAPHS, JODY TODD, POLLY WREFORD, PAUL MASSEY, ISTOCKPHOTO.COM, NATO WELTON, MEL YATES, CATHERINE GRATWICKE

Step 2 Get creative with colour

ARE YOU A DIAMOND DIVA OR A RUBY LOVER?

CLEAR

Perfect for: Trad and bling girls alike. Matching anything and everything, it's the safest option



1.2ct diamond and platinum ring, £4,250, bentley-skinner.com

RED

Perfect for: Brides who want to stand out – this is a bright and bold colour that can't be missed



0.2ct diamond, ruby and gold ring, £550, hsamuel.co.uk

BLUE

Perfect for: Lovers of all things classic who nevertheless want something a little more unusual



Topaz and white-gold ring, £6,950, bulgari.com

GREEN

Perfect for: Lovers of the limelight who are looking to shine even brighter on their big day



0.55ct diamond, tourmaline and gold ring, £7,250, bentley-skinner.com



Step 3 Run rings around your budget

HOW TO MAKE THOSE £s GO EVEN FURTHER

■ A pavé setting – smaller stones – around a main stone will reflect light, and create the illusion of a bigger stone.

■ Jewellers that have a big online business have fewer overheads than many store-operated firms, and so their prices are more affordable.

■ Tobias Kormind, the co-founder of 77 Diamonds, says: 'Fancy shapes such as pears, ovals and marquises offer great spread for the carat weight. A 1ct oval will have a greater surface area than a 1.0ct cushion-cut or round diamond.'

■ Look out for the sales. Most jewellers offer reduced stock at some point in the year. If they don't advertise it, don't be afraid to ask.

■ Equally be sure to ask your consultant for advice on how to get the best deal on your rings. There are many tricks of the trade, such as trading in a bigger carat weight for lesser clarity when focusing on size →

Your DIAMOND to DRESS journey

CHOOSE A RING THAT MOST SUITS YOUR STYLE, THEN DISCOVER THE GOWN OF YOUR DREAMS



Simulated gemstone and white-gold ring, £345, caratlondon.com

YOUR RING... A pear or marquise cut in a trilogy setting is trad but still different enough. Keep your wedding bands modern – think 'safe' with a twist.

YOUR PERSONALITY... Fun and playful. You'll do just as much dancing as guest-greeting at your wedding.



0.4ct diamond and white-gold ring, £3,250, chanel.com

YOUR RING... Hearts may not be classic, but they're so gorgeous you'll never get bored of them. Pair with white-gold wedding bands for you and your groom.

YOUR PERSONALITY... Laidback! You adore vintage and all things whimsical. A beach wedding? Bring it on!



0.50ct diamond and gold ring, £1,000, goldsmiths.co.uk

YOUR RING... A square cut – you mean business! A diamond band will add extra sparkle. Your groom should go for something bling (with instructions from you!).

YOUR PERSONALITY... Effortlessly stylish. The Black Eyed Peas' *Glamorous* is your tune (it'll be your first dance).



0.4ct diamond and gold ring, £2,100, debeers.co.uk

YOUR RING... A modern design, with a coloured stone and a setting that reflects your confident style - complemented with diamond bands for you and your groom.

YOUR PERSONALITY... Way too cool to join the masses, you like to do your own thing (and pull it off with confidence).



From 1.01ct diamond and platinum ring, POA, harrywinston.com

YOUR RING... Round or cushion-cut diamonds are timeless and very elegant. Your bands should be trad and plain, with the metal matching your engagement ring.

YOUR PERSONALITY... You're known for liking things 'just so'. If it's romantic and feminine, it's right up your street.

YOUR DRESS...



MARK ZUNINO

Short

One of the reasons (apart from dancing, of course!) being that it'll show off your fabulous shoes



TEMPERLEY LONDON

Lace

The more vintage the better! Layer it up with soft silk, or go for a simple and unstructured style



CAROLINA HERRERA

Fishtail

You'll have centre stage and want to shine! A fishtail will emphasise your curves, and exude sophistication and class



DAVID FIELDEN

Slinky

A column dress in a slinky silk or satin will not only show off your figure, but allow you to add glam accessories



MONIQUE LHUILLIER

Ballgown

A traditional fairytale strapless ballgown is big on style and big on volume

PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD

SWAROVSKI.COM



All prices are non-binding RRP's including VAT. Prices are subject to change from time to time without prior notice. Please check with the participating boutique at the time of purchase.

Pendants from £69

SWAROVSKI

Upgrade your up-do!

Bejewel your big-day hair with these so pretty accessories, inspired by the red-carpet's finest

Relaxed glamour

A loose up-do is so versatile. For a low-key, cute vibe, pair with these simple pearl pins.



KATE BECKINSALE



Pearl hairpin, £50, hermioneharbutt.com

Pony tales

The simplicity of this low-do is what makes it covetable, so don't mess too much with it! A diamanté clip over the knot is detail enough.



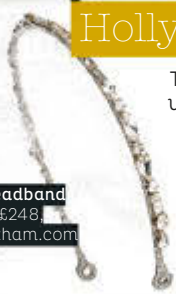
FREIDA PINTO



Granite hairclaw, £22, glitzysecrets.com

Hollywood sleek

This slicked back 'do, with not a hair out of place, is a classic. Adding a delicate face veil completes the pulled-together style. We love the crystal detail.



Crystal headband with veil, £248, jennypackham.com



BLAKE LIVELY

Princess perfect

If you're going for full-on fairytale, a regal up-do is the only way to go. A quiff, rather than a Princess Anne bouffant, keeps it fashionable.



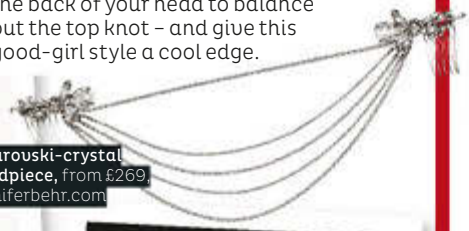
Swarovski-crystal tiara, £58, butlerandwilson.co.uk



SELENA GOMEZ

Prima ballerina

Place a jewelled headpiece at the back of your head to balance out the top knot – and give this good-girl style a cool edge.



Swarovski-crystal headpiece, from £269, jenniferbehr.com



SARAH HYLAND

Queen for the day

A killer blow-dry is essential on your big day – but how to upgrade the look... With a crown, of course!



Swarovski-crystal embellished crown, £350, haloandco.com



AMBER HEARD

Big on braids

Braids are still big news for spring. A wreath is soft and girlie, but add some crystals or pearls to ensure your look says 'bride' and not 'bridesmaid'.



Floral wreath (Jardinière roses, astrantias and mimosa), from £50, rebelrebel.co.uk



MARGOT ROBBIE

Making waves

Enhance this elegant '40s style with a crystal clip below the parting →



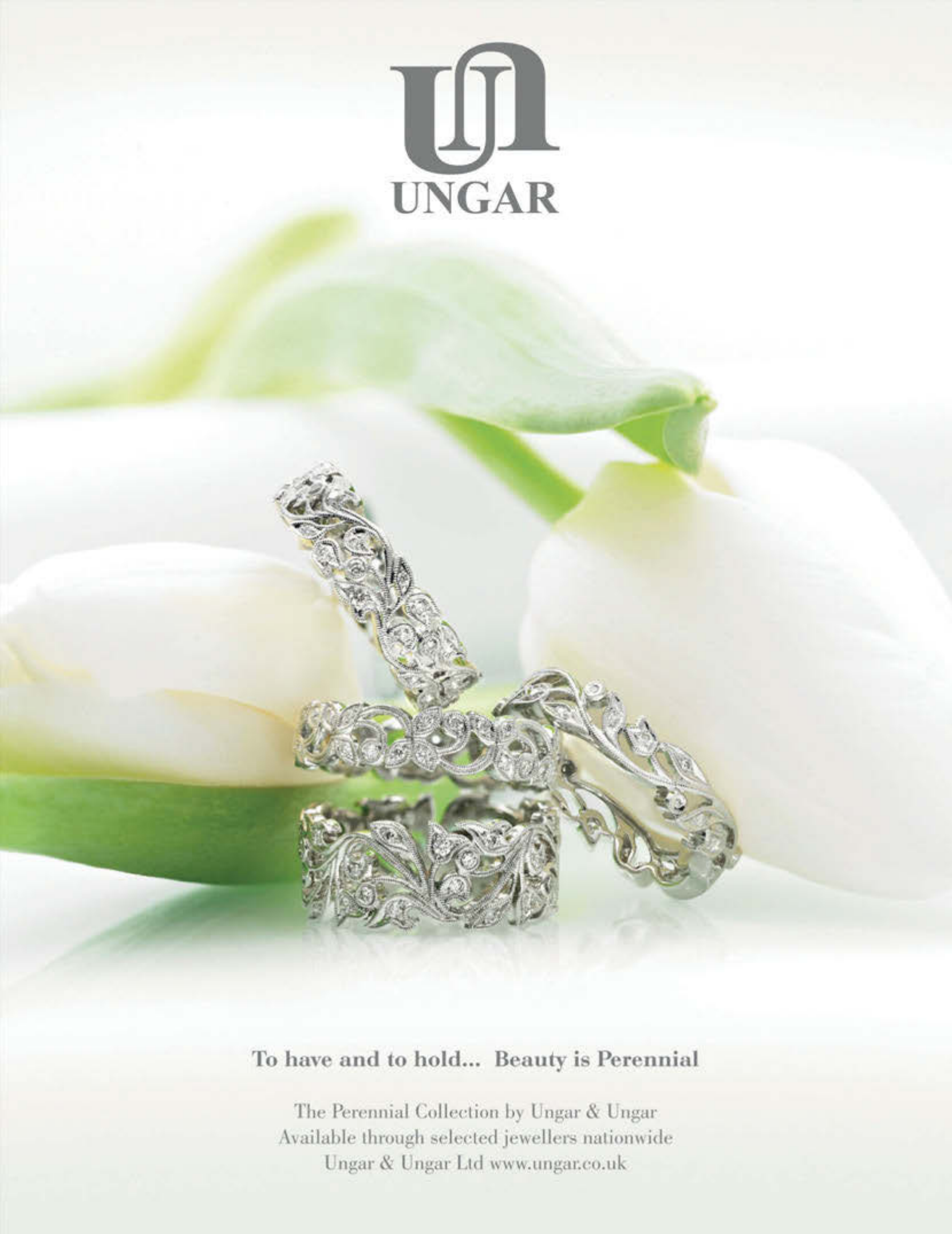
Crystal hair slide, £24, glitzysecrets.com



EMMA STONE

PHOTOGRAPHS: GETTY IMAGES, JODY TODD

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Crystal bracelet, £166, Stephanie Browne at libertyinlove.co.uk

Cubic-zirconia bracelet, £150, astridandmiyu.com

Crystal, pearl and silk-organza necklace, £325, jennypackham.com

Crystal necklace, £30, zalando.co.uk

Crystal necklace, £28, jonrichard.com

Cubic-zirconia necklace, £175, Attwood & Sawyer by Buckley at hsamuel.co.uk

Diamanté necklace, £32, jonrichard.com

Statement stones...

...for your wrist, neck and waist



Embellished tulle sash, £265, haloandco.com



Rhinestone embellished belt, £50, Designs By Kirsty Marie at etsy.com



Satin, crystal and glass belt, from £159, bhldn.com



Glass beaded belt, £600, Simone Rocha at net-a-porter.com →

PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD

Our little white book

YOU'VE READ OUR GUIDE, AND YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT. HERE'S WHERE TO GET IT

'I want something...'

...trad and timeless

TIFFANY From stars, hearts and floral designs right through to classic pieces, it's hard to go wrong with a rock from this Bond Street giant; tiffany.co.uk

VAN CLEEF & ARPELS The place to go for pretty, delicate and feminine jewellery, the brand is loved for its butterfly and floral designs. These chic **gold and mother-of-pearl studs** (£3,650, vancleefarpels.com; right) are the perfect bridal accessory.



MALLORY Bath's go-to jeweller stocks designs from some of the biggest brands, including Bvlgari, as well as watches from Rolex and Omega; mallory-jewellers.com

THEO FENNELL Known for its beautifully made jewellery, like these **1.12ct diamond and platinum stud earrings,** (£7,950, theofennell.com; 9) the firm creates pieces combining old-school glamour with a sprinkling of rock'n'roll.

MAPPIN & WEBB Creative Director Elizabeth Galton has put the brand through a renaissance, reinterpreting historic motifs and making them relevant with updated designs. Discover wearable pieces with a twist; mappinandwebb.com

WENTWORTH JEWELS Creating bespoke jewellery for Royals and the A-list alike, this is one of the north of England's hotspots; wentworthjewels.com

77 DIAMONDS The place to make your pounds go furthest. With access to over 80% of the world's polished diamonds, its online service means store overheads are cut and prices dropped.

...costume chic

JENNY PACKHAM Art deco, eye-catching pieces with a modern twist, like this **crystal necklace** (£455, jennypackham.com; 6).

GLITZY SECRETS The name says it all! If you like your bling, you'll love these bold yet glamorous pieces. The best part? The price tag; glitzysecrets.com

BUTLER & WILSON Expect to find diamond tiaras and pretty accessories like this **freshwater pearl and cubic-zirconia bracelet** (£278, butlerandwilson.co.uk; 2).

CAROLINA HERRERA No one does chic like Ms Herrera – look at this **crystal ring** (£100, carolinaherrera.com; 4).

CADENZZA Offering designs by names including Lulu Frost; cadenzza.co.uk

...directional and cool

MAWI LONDON Fun and luxurious, head here for some unusual pieces. Studs – its signature – combine soft opposites from roses to pastel stones, making them extra cool yet feminine; mawi.co.uk

STEPHEN WEBSTER The king of classic, modern fine jewels, with an A-list clientele (think Madonna, Sharon Stone, Beyoncé). Despite the directional aesthetic, all of his pieces are surprisingly wearable, like this **1.84ct diamond and white-gold ring** (£10,500, stephenwebster.com; right).



CRICKET This is *the* boutique for all Liverpool-based brides-to-be, stocking bold jewellery hot off the catwalks from the likes of Lanvin, Givenchy and Matthew Williamson; cricket-fashion.com

NET-A-PORTER *The* mecca for fashion tribes. Has the best costume and fine jewels, like these **gold-plated earrings** (£515, Finds + Joyas Fio at net-a-porter.com; 10).

...faux and pretty

CARAT* Has a wide range of gorgeous synthetic gemstones in every colour. Check out this **simulated gemstone and sterling-silver ring** (£329, caratlondon.com; right).



DIAMONFIRE As with real diamonds, this brand's stones are measured in carats and certified according to the 'clarity', 'cut' and 'proportion'; diamonfire.co.uk

...for my bridesmaids

PANDORA With a wide range of designs from delicate to quirky, there's something for everyone at this store. We heart this **sterling-silver charm bangle** (£55, and **charms,** £40 each, pandora.net; 1).

SWAROVSKI Fashion-forward pieces that will update any outfit, any time, any place, such as these **crystal earrings** (£74, swarovski.com; 5).

...unique and vintage

GRAYS ANTIQUES This indoor market (graysantiques.com) is awash with rare gems and one-of-a-kind finds, like this **0.75ct diamond and gold ring** (£2,950, antiquejewellerycompany.com; 8).

BENTLEY & SKINNER Unusual and impressive jewellery, with a Royal warrant to match, this firm is a must if you're looking for serious expert advice. Check out its hire service, including tiaras, from just £75 a day; bentley-skinner.co.uk

MICHAEL ROSE Based in Burlington Arcade off Bond Street, it's worth the trip to experience the style and elegance of this old-school jeweller. Sourcing original pieces, like these pretty **0.15ct diamond and gold earrings** (£2,950, michaelrose jewels.com; 3) from all eras as well.

GRA SILVER Specialising in rare vintage Scandinavian jewellers, such as Georg Jensen, and with exquisite pieces like this **crystal and sterling-silver ring** (£400, grasilver.com; 7). Visit their new store in Ebury Street in Central London. B

PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD









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In the next issue

BRIDES

It's all about the WHITE *wedding*

DON'T MISS OUR RECEPTION
IDEAS, FLOWERS, FASHION, ACCESSORIES
AND REAL-LIFE WEDDINGS



MAY/JUNE ISSUE ON SALE 26 MARCH 2015

PHOTOGRAPH: THE-OCCASION.CO.UK



CELEBRATE YOUR BIG DAY AND HELP BEAT CANCER

The wedding list that helps save lives

Hannah and Matt chose to support Cancer Research UK on their big day:

"Both of us have lost loved ones to cancer, with Matt suddenly losing his Mum at the age of 18. So when we saw an advert for Give in Celebration in a wedding magazine, we thought it was a wonderful idea. It felt like a special way of remembering the people that couldn't be there on our wedding day."

You too can create a personalised webpage to request life-saving donations from your family and friends. You can use this instead of, or as well as, a traditional gift list.

Wedding favours that help beat cancer

Another way of thanking your guests for celebrating your wedding is to make a donation in place of a wedding favour.

Our personalised favour cards and pin badges are a meaningful keepsake of your donation and the perfect finishing touch to your big day.

Visit **www.sayido.org** today

CANCER RESEARCH UK

FundRaising Standards Board

Registered charity nos 1089464, SC041666 and 1103
Photograph Polly Alexandre











KELSEY ROSE

WWW.KELSEYROSE.CO.UK







Dress by Jenny Packham at Debenhams

Suit by Moss Bros

Dress by Berketex Bride

Suit by Moss Bros **Right:** Dress by Cutting Edge Brides

Left: Dress by Ian Stuart at Florentyna Dawn











From left to right: Cake by The Cake Store; flowers by Daphne Rosa; heels by Zaeem Jamal

One stop SHOP

SHOW DATES
Manchester Central: *7th - 8th February*
London Olympia: *20th – 22nd February*
Birmingham NEC: *27th February - 1st March*

It's official, The National Wedding Show is returning to London, Birmingham and Manchester this spring!

It's back! With exciting feature areas, a breath-taking catwalk show and more than 300 experts specialising in everything from stunning dresses to sparkling accessories, exquisite flowers to mouth-watering cakes and thrilling entertainment to idyllic venues, it's the ultimate destination for shopping, inspiration and wedding planning. You can try, buy, book and hire everything for your big day, on one day, under one roof. Don't miss the catwalk show (it takes place four times each day) and features the latest collections from the finest designers, retailers and boutiques. Big names to look out for include Suzanne Neville, Jenny Packham, Ivory & Co, Allure Bridals, Justin Alexander, Alfred Angelo, Diane Harbridge, Eliza Jane Howell, Zaeem Jamal, Berketex Bride and many more. Afterwards, hotfoot it to the Top 10 Tips in the wedding theatre, where the show's glam squad will share invaluable advice on styling, hair and beauty in an exciting countdown featuring demonstrations and makeovers live on stage.

Covering everything from how to achieve complexion perfection with award-winning mineral makeup brand bareMinerals to choosing the best dress for your body shape, the Top 10 Tips will provide you with everything you need to know about big day beauty and style. Discover the latest bridal beauty trends from official show sponsor bareMinerals and treat yourself to a file and polish from Essie, who will be on hand to help you create flawless perfection for your big day. And why not round off an exciting day in the Tea Room? Relax and unwind with a traditional cream tea or head to the Champagne Bar and toast your future happiness. Make sure you experience everything in star style with VIP tickets, which include fast-track entrance, reserved seating at the catwalk show, a complimentary glass of bubbly, a goody bag full of beauty products to pamper yourself with and a copy of 'Be a Beautiful Bride', packed full of useful style and beauty advice – guaranteed to ensure you look fabulous on your big day!

BOOK NOW!

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Chiconomy

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Satin dress, £195, Truly Zac Posen at davidsbridal.co.uk

Lace dress, £180, bhs.co.uk

Lace dress, £150, bhs.co.uk

Shift dress with faux-fur hem, £55, topshop.com

Crochet and mesh dress, £30, boohoo.com

Lace dress, £55, topshop.com

Draped dress, £195, coast-stores.com

Sequined lace dress, £149, monsoon.co.uk

£200 AND UNDER

Change from £50? Yes, it's possible, say the Brides fashion team

Lace dress with embellished waist tie, £195, coast-stores.com

Beaded dress, £120, JS Collection at houseoffraser.co.uk

WIN! *Love these dresses?* For your chance to win one, turn to page 176

WIN ME! Chiffon dress, £130, davids bridal.co.uk

WIN ME! Lace dress, £199, jacques-vert.co.uk →

Chiconomy

£450 AND UNDER

Ramp up the glamour with playful feathers and sequins

Beaded lace and chiffon dress, £365, dynastyuk.co.uk

Peau de soie dress, £395, dessy.com

Lace dress, £220, coast-stores.com

WIN! *Love these dresses?* For your chance to win one, turn to page 176

WIN ME! Organza and lace dress, £395, kittyanddulcie.com

WIN ME! Organza dress, £450, eternitybridal.com

Sequined dress, £250, foreverunique.co.uk

WIN ME! Sequined dress with ribbon, £290, Adrianna Papell at johnlewis.com

Beaded lace dress, £250, bhs.co.uk

Sequined tulle dress, £360, dessy.com

Lace dress, from £440, bhldn.com

Feather dress, £259, opulenceengland.com

Embellished dress, £235, opulenceengland.com

Duchess-satin and tulle dress, £250, phase-eight.com


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Chiffon dress with Swarovski-crystal brooch, from £730, maggiesottero.com

Chiffon dress, £599, Modern Vintage at alfredangelobridal.co.uk

Ruffled chiffon dress, £675, White by Vera Wang at davidsbridal.co.uk

Embroidered lace and tulle dress, £735, davincibridal.com

Silk-tulle and lace dress, £600, catherinedeane.com

Tulle and lace dress, from £607, bhldn.com

Beaded silk dress, £699, monsoon.co.uk

WIN! *Love these dresses?* For your chance to win one, turn to page 176

WIN ME! Lace dress, £610, dessy.com

WIN ME! Lace dress with pearls and diamanté, from £600, elizajanehowell.com

£750 AND UNDER

Embrace fuller skirts and pretty embellishment

Satin dress, £750, romanticaof devon.co.uk →

Tulle dress with beaded lace appliqué, £575, davidsbridal.co.uk



Shoes for the aspiring bride



BENJAMIN ADAMS
London

benjaminadamslondon.com

Chiconomy



WIN! *Love these dresses?* For your chance to win one, turn to page 176

WIN ME! **Beaded chiffon dress,** from £999, impressionbridal.com

Satin dress, £899, ellisbridals.co.uk

Crinkle chiffon dress, £810, Ti Adora at jlmcouture.com

Satin dress, £960, Victoria Jane at ronaldjoyce.com

WIN ME! **French lace dress,** £900, charlottebalbier.com

Chiffon dress, £795, amandawyatt.com

Embroidered lace and tulle dress, from £995, jadedaniels.com

Lace dress with pearls, £825, Modern Vintage at alfredangelo bridal.co.uk

Satin dress, £867, heritage-bridaluk.com

Embroidered lace and tulle dress, £960, Modern Vintage at alfredangelo bridal.co.uk

£1,000 AND UNDER

Go big on floral detailing and luxurious fabrics

Embroidered tulle dress, £810, romantica ofdevon.co.uk

Satin and lace dress, £895, Victoria Jane at ronaldjoyce.com →


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Chiconomy

£1,200 AND UNDER

Opt for sweetheart necklines, fishtails and va-va volume

Embellished satin dress, £1,085, ronaldjoyce.com

Chantilly-lace and tulle dress, £1,050, Ti Adora at jlmcouture.com

Embellished tulle dress, £1,107, heritage-bridaluk.com

Organza dress, £1,080, ellisbridals.co.uk

Lace and satin dress, £1,099, essencedesigns.com

French lace dress, £1,138, charlottebalbier.com

Lace dress with flower appliqué, £1,197, amandawyatt.com

Lace dress with Swarovski crystals, from £1,120, maggiesottero.com

WIN ME! Embroidered lace, organza and satin dress, from £1,064, David Tutera at mon-cheri.co.uk

Tulle and lace dress, from £1,200, dianeharbridge.com

WIN ME! Orchid satin and lace dress, £1,197, Karen George at benjaminroberts.co.uk

WIN ME! Tulle dress, £1,150, catherinedeane.com

WIN! *Love these dresses?* For your chance to win a gown, go to bridesmagazine.co.uk and answer the simple question. *Closing date: 26 March 2015*

STYLING: ASTRID JOSS. PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD

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www.clarebridalstudio.co.uk

Mode Bridal
Hove, East Sussex
Tel: 01273 930990
www.modebridal.co.uk

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2015 COLLECTION 'SIREN SONG'



STYLE *SCOOP*

We bring you the lowdown on one of our favourite occasionwear brands. Jacques Vert will have your *entire* bridal party sorted in no time. You're welcome!

This image: Jacques Vert fascinator, £79; jacket, £159; dress, £149; bag, £69



Left to right: Kaliko dresses, both £149; Kaliko belt, £49

TOP BRIDESMAID PICK: COOL CREAMS OR PASTEL PINKS





Left: Jacques Vert fascinator, £79; jacket, £129; dress, £149; bag, £69 Below: Kaliko belt, £39

THE PARTY STARTS HERE! But we know how difficult it can be to find those perfect outfits for the special ladies in your life. From the grandmother-of-the-bride to the mother-of-the-bride and your bridesmaids, it's important that everyone feels both comfortable and stylish on the big day. Step in occasionwear experts Jacques Vert who are here to make every decision as easy as possible with their gorgeous, versatile and super-flattering designs.

IT'S LOVE

Fall for Jacques Vert's stunning new collection this season. With an easy-to-use website, you can find a chic, elegant head-to-toe look in minutes with beautiful dresses, separates, accessories and shoes. Still searching for the perfect mother-of-the-bride outfit? Jacques Vert will make her feel very special with coordinating outfits and exclusive collaborations available. Rachel Trevor-Morgan, Milliner to HM The Queen, even recently designed a range of stunning headpieces for Jacques Vert! All pieces are tailored specifically with special occasions in mind with exquisite attention to detail using the best quality fabrics and materials – you really can expect only the very highest standards here. As well as an extensive range online, you and your bridal party can hotfoot it to one of the local stores for an indulgent retail experience trying on the finest dresses and accessories. And don't forget, it's not just Jacques Vert that you get to choose from…

"It's all about gorgeous, versatile and super-flattering designs for the whole bridal party"

Jacques Vert's sister brand Kaliko offers perfect pieces for your bridesmaids, guests and the whole bridal party. Kaliko's new SS15 bridesmaid collection will be exclusively available online and in selected stores – visit kaliko.co.uk for more information.

NEW COLLECTIONS

Jacques Vert is also launching a range of petite occasionwear (hurrah!). The collection is designed and fitted exclusively for ladies who are 5"3 and under. It's all about looking elegant and feminine on the big day, and this new venture ensures that everyone will have the perfect, flattering fit, including those with a petite frame! And the fun doesn't stop there. Sleek and chic brand Kaliko is moving in an exciting new direction for SS15, going back to its occasionwear roots. The wedding guest and bridesmaids collections incorporate beautiful shapes, pretty pastel tones and feminine new textures. It's time to get shopping!

For more information visit jacques-vert.co.uk



Above and below: Kaliko dresses, both £149





Jacques Vert fascinator, £99; jacket, £149; dress, £149; bag, £69; shoes, £99



Left: Jacques Vert fascinator, £99; dress, £199

READER EVENT!

Join *Brides'* favourite occasionwear brand Jacques Vert for an evening of wedding party style inspiration, beauty and bubbly at the capital's coolest hotel, Rosewood London.

On the hunt for the perfect oh-so-pretty bridesmaid dresses? Looking for a super-chic mother-of-the-bride outfit? See the collections brought to life at our exclusive wedding party reader event. Taking place in the stunning ballroom at Rosewood London, Jacques Vert, the occasionwear brand, will be showcasing its collection alongside sister brand Kaliko.
Plus we'll have Bobbi Brown on hand to offer mini makeovers and consultations for beautiful big day looks and hair advice from top London stylists Michael Van Clarke. Book your place now!

WHEN: Monday 16 March 2015
WHERE: Rosewood Hotel, 252 High Holborn, London WC1V
TICKETS: Free but limited. To apply, email bridesretaileditor@condenast.co.uk



Clockwise: Exterior of The Rosewood Hotel, London; Scarfes Bar at The Rosewood; Hair styling by Michael Van clarke

Main image:
Kaliko dress, £149





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Top dress boutique Blackburn Bridal Couture has teamed up with luxury resort, The Datai, in exotic Malaysia. They show you where to wed and what to wear...

THE DATAI LANGKAWI, SITUATED IN THE NORTHWEST TIP OF LANGKAWI ISLAND in Malaysia, couldn't be more idyllic for a dream destination wedding. Surrounded by an ancient tropical rainforest leading down to the sparkling Datai Bay, a white sand beach that was chosen by National Geographic as one of the top 10 beaches in the world, this exclusive resort overlooks the azure waters of the Andaman Sea. A member of Leading Hotels of The World (and we can easily see why!), this is an iconic resort and undoubtedly one of the world's most stunning hideaways. Worrying about abroad wedmin? You'll find a dedicated team on site offering a bespoke service for the most romantic of weddings and honeymoons. And it doesn't stop there - tailor-made holiday specialists Experience Travel Group can handle every aspect of your honeymoon from the UK, so there's no

'This is one of the world's most stunning hideaways'

need to fret about the details, both big and small, everything will be taken care of for you. With sultry suites and secluded villas to choose from, each space offers scenic views of the jungle or beach, and with a plethora of dining options available (indoor or alfresco!) and an award-winning spa nestled under the rainforest canopy, we guarantee you'll fall for this truly special archipelago. You can even experience a romantic sunset cruise on a hand-crafted traditional junk schooner... The honeymoon starts here.



Left: Celestine dress by Claire Pettibone; £6420
Right: Eden dress by Claire Pettibone; £2890

RUSSELL BLACKBURN

No matter where you decide to tie the knot, Blackburn Bridal Couture has the perfect designer dress for your luxurious destination wedding. The Datai simply oozes luxury, so why not choose stunning Claire Pettibone for a real wow factor? We love, love, *love* these 2015 pieces - sheer elegance and style. Visit blackburnbridal.co.uk

For more information visit thedatai.com or experiencetravelgroup.com



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How they did it

Special

235 OF THE BEST REAL WEDDING IDEAS



2 *Fashionably fun*



3 *A Notting Hill carnival*



4 *The inner city garden*

1



‘Our WEDDING, our WAY...’

8 couples share their beautiful weddings with *Brides*, and explain how they made it *so* right for them



5 *A rustic day on the farm*



6 *Married in Monaco*



7 *The trad garden party*



8 *Luxe neutrals in the sun*







‘We brought the outdoors in’

Stephanie Chiu, 28, married Jeff Ng, 28, at Blenheim Palace in Woodstock, Oxfordshire, on 14 June 2014. She says:

It was important to us that our guests had a taste of the English countryside, and Blenheim Palace’s beautiful Orangery was the perfect canvas for this vision. **Our palette was gold mixed with champagne and blush.** Silk rose petals hung from the gold chandeliers and the tables were lined with buttermilk linen. **On the day I wore two wedding dresses** – a white gown for the day and a red Vera Wang ballgown for the evening (red is the traditional colour for a Chinese bride). **Our white chocolate, raspberry and lemon cake** was lined with sugarcraft lace that matched my daytime wedding dress. **The hardest things to source were the silver ornamental bunnies** used as part of the decor. We adore our real pet rabbits and wanted to incorporate them somehow into the day (without bringing them along). **My top tip:** If you use a planner, ensure they have your best interests at heart. We rowed with our first planner about which suppliers to use, before finding Isobel from Isobel Weddings, who was fabulous!











INTERVIEW: SOPHIE CULLEN. WORDS: ROSALYN WIKELEY

How *they* did it







CLOCKWISE FROM TOP FAR LEFT JEFF AND STEPHANIE IN BLENHEIM'S GROUNDS. GOLD ACCENTS ADDED A LUXE VIBE TO THE DECOR. ESCORT CARDS WERE HUNG FROM BIRCH BRANCHES. THE COUPLE MARRIED IN THE ORANGERY, WHERE THEY LINED THE AISLE WITH SILVER BIRCH TREES. A DISPLAY OF DEWI LADY AND BORDEAUX DELPHINIUMS. THE TOWERING TABLECENTRES WERE MADE UP OF MIXED ROSES, PEONIES AND FOLIAGE. LANTERNS CREATED A ROMANTIC MOOD. THE BRIDE – WHO WORE A RED VERA WANG GOWN FOR THE EVENING – GETS READY TO THROW HER BOUQUET. THE DELICATE CAKE. THE COUPLE BROUGHT THE BLOSSOMING ENGLISH SCENERY INDOORS. STEPHANIE'S MAIDS COMPLEMENTED THE BLUSH PALETTE PERFECTLY. ORNAMENTAL SILVER BUNNIES WERE SCATTERED ACROSS THE VENUE. THE ESCORT CARDS. AN ARRANGEMENT OF MAGICAL OPAL CLASSIC HYDRANGEAS AND PISTACHIO FOLIAGE →





Where they bought it

THE BRIDE Wedding dress, from £5,000, and veil, from £1,900, inbaldror.co.il. Evening dress, £8,000, verawang.com
THE GROOM Suit, tie, and shirt, POA, wwchan.com
THE BRIDESMAIDS Dresses, from £100 each, dessy.com. Shoes, similar from £45 a pair, zara.com
THE VENUE AND THE CATERING £6,350, to hire, and food and drink, £90 a head, blenheimpalace.com
THE CAKE From £350, princesspatisserie.co.uk
THE DECOR Vases, £15 each, hobbycraft.co.uk. Silver rabbits, similar from £20 each, and charger plates, £1 each, isobelweddings.com
THE FLOWERS Bridal bouquet, from £100; maids' bouquets, £45 each; buttonhole, £7.50; trees, £400 each; table arrangements, from £200 each, and large arrangements, POA, emmawalkerflowers.co.uk
THE STATIONERY Escort cards, from £1,000 for 60, seesawsed.com
THE PLANNER From £7,000, isobelweddings.com
THE PHOTOGRAPHER From £5,000, photographybycatherine.co.uk

How *they* did it











‘My childhood dream came true’

Vogue’s bookings editor Rosie Vogel, 33, married Matthew Eades, 39, at La Iglesia de Sant Bernat in Forna, Spain, followed by a reception at El Rubiol on 30 August 2014. She says:

My family has had a holiday home in Forna since the ’70s, and it’s a very special place, full of happy memories. I always knew I wanted to get married in the lovely village church.

We stumbled upon the reception venue, El Rubiol, purely by chance while out for a walk one day. It’s such a beautiful hidden spot, just minutes from the church.

The church service was a blessing from the priest – we officially married back in London at Richmond Register Office. The priest spoke no English, so a family friend translated.

The village is up in the mountains, in the orange groves. This location set the tone for the whole wedding, from the food and my dress, to the designs on the invitations.

Our colour palette was a mix of greens, oranges and whites. For our floral displays, we used hydrangeas, roses and lots of rosemary, which grows wild around the village.

Matthew is a huge fan of James Bond, so we named our tables after 007 novels, using the original cover artwork as table names.

A white vintage convertible VW Beetle was our chariot of choice for a post-ceremony drive around the village. Our friends decorated it with old tin cans and navy pompoms.

The food was in line with village tradition, and locally sourced. We started with tomato, watermelon and chilli gazpacho, followed by sirloin steak with roasted seasonal vegetables.

My top tip: Give yourself one or two tasks each week to avoid a blind panic in the final month.

INTERVIEW: SOPHIE CULLEN. WORDS: ROSALYN WIKELEY



















Where they bought it

THE BRIDE Dress, veil and headpiece, POA, meadhamkirchhoff.com. Shoes, from £400, manoloblahnik.com
THE GROOM Suit, from £1,000, maisonmartinmargiela.com. Pocket square, from £70, ralphlauren.co.uk. Shoes, from £385, church-footwear.com
THE VENUE AND THE CATERING From £1,597, to hire, and food and drink, from £120 per person, cateringfran.com/el-rubiol
THE DECOR Picture frames, £10 each, ikea.com
THE STATIONERY Menu, £3.60; place cards, £1.68 each, and table numbers, £23.80 each, finfellowes.com
THE FLOWERS Bridal bouquet, from £95; maids' bouquets, from £31 each; wedding arch, from £600, and table arrangements, from £200 each, floreslatartana.com
THE PLANNER From £1,185, Isabel Gay at isabel@cityshopping.es
THE PHOTOGRAPHERS From £2,250, jimenaroquero.com. From £1,500, Nichole Rees at thebigdays.co →

CLOCKWISE FROM FAR TOP LEFT ROSIE AND MATTHEW CHOSE THE VILLAGE'S CHURCH FOR THEIR BLESSING. THE BRIDE, CARRYING A BOUQUET OF ROSES AND ROSEMARY, IS DRIVEN AWAY WITH NEW HUSBAND MATTHEW IN A VINTAGE VW BEETLE. AS PART OF THEIR DECOR, THE COUPLE MADE A 'FAMILY TREE' THAT HIGHLIGHTED THE MEMORIES THAT FORNA HOLDS FOR THEM. THE TABLES WERE ALL NAMED AFTER JAMES BOND NOVELS. THE ARRANGEMENTS FEATURED FRUIT MIXED WITH SIMPLE FLOWERS. THE BRIDESMAIDS CARRIED BOUQUETS OF GYPSOPHILA. THE ILLUSTRATED ESCORT CARDS. THE PRETTY RECEPTION MARQUEE. THE CUTE FLOWER DISPLAYS. ROSIE AND MATTHEW'S FIRST DANCE, TO ETTA JAMES'S *AT LAST*. THE TABLE SETTINGS WERE EACH FINISHED WITH ROSEMARY. THE BRIDE SEATED NEXT TO HER FATHER AND SURROUNDED BY HER NEW HUSBAND AND HER FAMILY. THE STUNNING GYPSOPHILA ARCH. A LOCAL GIRL WATCHES THE COUPLE EMERGE FROM THE CHURCH



‘We got married on our block’

Louise MacCallum, 33, married Jesse Boyce, 35, in St Peter’s Church in Notting Hill, West London, followed by a reception at 20th Century Theatre on 31 May 2014. She says:

As born-and-bred Londoners, we had to have a London wedding! It’s only a three-minute walk from the church to the venue, so we hired a marching band to accompany us along the way – it brought Portobello Road to a complete standstill!

The flowers reflected the day’s theme of ’30s Hollywood glamour. My ‘bouquet’ was a single, pink Secret Garden rose, while the church was lined with a variety of pink and white roses, and foliage.

For our wedding menu, we served canapés with a British twist, including mini toad-in-the-holes. We also had posh fish ’n’ chips, wrapped in fake newspapers – created by Jesse, who’s a graphic designer – with hilarious stories and photos from our stag and hen parties.

Having great entertainment was really important to us. The main band, Fake Tan, covered some killer ’80s tracks, while the cheerleaders from my husband’s favourite football team (Crystal Palace) made a surprise appearance. The dancefloor was transformed into a nightclub, with DJ Bad Zuke (aka Dan Savage) playing old-school hip-hop and classics... at the same time.

My top tip: Be sure to ask about your venue’s decibel limit for live music. Ours was only 90dB, which was too quiet for a band – but we still rocked it!







CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT AS LOUISE, JESSE AND THEIR YOUNG SON BASIL LEFT THE CHURCH, THE ORGAN PLAYED ‘LIGHT MY FIRE’. A CINEMA BILLBOARD FOR THE HEADLINE COUPLE. THE CEREMONY WAS RELAXED AND MODERN. GUESTS WERE SERVED FISH ’N’ CHIPS ON GOLD-TRIMMED CROCKERY. A HUGE HEART OF BULBS SHONE OUT FROM THE STAGE. JESSE DESIGNED THE FAKE NEWSPAPER WITH STORIES FROM THE STAG AND HEN DOS. THE FILM-POSTER-THEMED STATIONERY. ’80S COVERS BAND FAKE TAN ROCKED THE RECEPTION. GUESTS AT THE CHURCH SANG ALONG TO A GOSPEL CHOIR. CLASSIC MINIS WERE HIRED FROM SMALL CAR, BIG CITY. THE BRIDE WORE SUZANNE NEVILLE. LOUISE AND HER MAIDS WERE CHEERED AS THEY WALKED TO THE CHURCH



INTERVIEW: SOPHIE CULLEN. WORDS: ROSALYN WIKELEY

How *they* did it







Where they bought it

THE BRIDE Dress and veil, £4,500, suzanneneville.com
THE GROOM Suit, £700, sandro-paris.com. Shirt, £150, hugoboss.com. Tie, £25, tmlewin.co.uk
THE BRIDESMAIDS Dresses, from £225 each, ghost.co.uk
THE VENUE From £2,000, 20thcenturytheatre.com
THE CATERING From £45 per person, cateredbyjustin.com
THE CAKE £500, thecakestore.co.uk
THE DECOR Cake topper, £35, and cinema-style sign, £150, notonthehighstreet.com. Menus, £150, and bespoke newspapers, £350, jesseboyce.co.uk. Heart background, £500, to hire, hawkesandforman.com
THE FLOWERS Bridal 'bouquet', from £75, and maids' 'bouquets', from £35, jamjarflowers.co.uk
THE ENTERTAINMENT Fake Tan, £1,750, faketanband.com. DJ Bad Zuke, £300, facebook.com/badzuke
THE PLANNER Packages from £6,500, Susie Young at knotandpop.com
THE PHOTOGRAPHER £1,200, whitewedding.virb.com →











How *they* did it





‘Our own New York garden’

Katie Crown, 30, married Joseph Hazan, 40, at The Park in New York City on 1 June 2014. She says:

As an events producer, I decided to take on all the planning myself. I’m not sure that it’s something I’d recommend – it was pretty stressful – but it worked well for us.
In true New York style, I decided to walk to the venue as I was staying only four blocks away, while Joe took a cab.
When we found The Park, we knew it would be perfect. The venue – which has stunning rooms such as a glass-enclosed atrium – is so magical and transitions from day to night so well. Guests enjoyed cocktails while watching the sunset, before heading downstairs for a candlelit evening feast.
We decided not to have a cake as it was a little too traditional for us. Joe’s cousins nicknamed him ‘Joey Bag O’donuts’ when he was a child, so it was only fitting to have mini bags of donuts for our guests.
For place settings, I had personalised burlap bags made, which I filled with my favourite sweets, Werther’s Original, and tied with twine and lavender.
We wanted to create an intimate, relaxed environment where everything felt informal – as if our friends and family were in the garden of a fabulous home.
We included a pickleback bar (whisky and pickle-brine shots) for after dinner. It sounds horrible, but they’re delicious!
My top tip: Factor in personality and experience when picking your vendors, especially your photographer – you will be sharing that important day with them, too.





INTERVIEW: SOPHIE CULLEN







Where they bought it

THE BRIDE Dress, from £3,100, Anna Maier at gabriellanewyork.com
THE GROOM Suit, from £630, thekooples.co.uk. Tie, from £125, prada.com. Shirt, from £157, and shoes, from £190, paulsmith.co.uk
THE VENUE AND CATERING From £6,350, to hire. Food, from £120 a head for three courses, theparknyc.com
THE DECOR Faux metal letters, from £12, anthropologie.eu. Wooden table number, from £42 for 15, and burlap bags, from 75p each, etsy.com
THE FLOWERS Bridal bouquet, from £155; buttonhole, from £22, and reception flowers, from £222 a table, flowergirlnyc.com
THE PHOTOGRAPHER From £3,490, Gary Ashley at theweddingac.com









CLOCKWISE FROM FAR TOP LEFT KATIE WITH HUSBAND JOSEPH. SHE CHOSE A FRENCH FEUILLE LACE DRESS AND A BOUQUET OF PEONIES AND SWEETPEAS. THE PAIR MARRIED IN THE GARDEN, BENEATH THE HOTEL'S ARCH OF WISTERIA VINES, SURROUNDED BY JAPANESE MAPLE TREES. GUESTS WERE GIVEN A BURLAP BAG FILLED WITH WERTHER'S ORIGINAL SWEETS, TIED WITH TWINE AND FINISHED WITH LAVENDER. THE VENUE'S LUXE INTERIORS PROVED THE IDEAL BACKDROP FOR THE NEWLYWEDS' PHOTOS. THE WOODEN TABLE NUMBERS. KATIE AND JOSEPH SHARE A KISS. AFTER BEING GIVEN THE 'K' AS A GIFT, THE PAIR BOUGHT A 'J' TO PLACE NEXT TO THE GUESTBOOK. SUPPER INCLUDED DELICIOUS SUMMER SALADS, GRILLED FISH AND A PIZZA – A NOD TO JOSEPH'S ITALIAN HERITAGE. PEONIES, SWEETPEAS, JULIET ROSES AND SNAPDRAGONS ADORNED THE TABLE. THE STUNNING BRIDE. THE FEMININE ARRANGEMENTS →







'We grew our own wedding'

Katie Watts, 33, married Ian Sanderson, 33, at Crowland Abbey in Peterborough, followed by a reception at Vine House Farm in Spalding, Lincolnshire, on 21 June 2014. She says:

We wanted our wedding to have an organic feel with lots of detail. We spent endless hours making signs, and filling teapots and vintage bottles with blooms. **The flowers were the first thing that we chose.** I wanted delphiniums and peonies from Matthew Naylor's farm (the friend who introduced us), so the final date was worked around their three-week blooming window. **My father is a farmer, so he wanted the menu to be made up of British produce** using ingredients grown on our farm. We began with scallop canapés and an asparagus starter, followed by monkfish with seasonal vegetables and a delicious berry soufflé. **I wanted pink (my favourite colour!) to feature heavily in the day.** To avoid things going too 'candy', I complemented it with touches of magenta and antique gold. **The marquee's statement piece was the suspended cake covered in flowers.** I'm a cake-maker, so the pressure was on to find something no one had seen me do before. **My top tip:** Imagine being a guest at your own wedding and stick to trusted suppliers.

INTERVIEW: SOPHIE CULLEN. WORDS: ROSALYN WIKELEY

How *they* did it







CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT FAMILY AND FRIENDS HELPED KATIE AND IAN TO CREATE THEIR OPULENT, YET RELAXED WEDDING. THE PAIR SPENT HOURS MAKING THE RUSTIC WOODEN SIGNS. THE SPECTACULAR MARQUEE WAS DECORATED WITH SILVER BIRCH TREES FROM THE FARM, WHICH WERE COVERED WITH BLOOMS INCLUDING DELPHINIUMS, SCABIOUS, SWEET WILLIAMS, ACHELIA AND SWEET PEAS, AND HUNG FROM THE CEILING. THE PRETTY VINTAGE-STYLE INVITES. KATIE'S BOUQUET OF FESTIVA MAXIMA, SARAH BERNHARDT, MADAME CORD TAME AND SHIRLEY TEMPLE PEONIES. THE COUPLE'S USHER TIM WAS TASKED WITH DECKING OUT THE CHURCH IN GYPSOPHILA. EACH OF THE TABLES WAS NAMED AFTER A BOAT THAT IAN'S GRANDFATHER BUILT ON THE NORFOLK BROADS. SIMPLE ARRANGEMENTS OF PEONIES, SCABIOUS AND THISTLES. EVEN THE DRINKS WERE GIVEN THE FLORAL TOUCH WITH A SPRIG OF WHEAT →







How *they* did it













CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT THE PAGEBOYS LEAD THE BRIDE DOWN THE AISLE. THE HANDMADE SIGNS MADE FROM RECLAIMED WOOD PROVED TO BE A FOCAL POINT. THE RUSTIC BAR. FOR GUESTS WITH A SWEET TOOTH, THERE WERE MARSHMALLOWS DIPPED IN CHOCOLATE. KATIE, WHO ADMITS SHE IS ALWAYS LATE, GAVE IAN A POCKET WATCH AS A WEDDING GIFT. ONE OF THE ADORABLE PAGEBOYS IN HIS TWEED CAP AND BRACES. THE PAIR SOURCED VINTAGE FRAMES FOR THEIR TABLE NAMES. AN OLD-FASHIONED FARM CART TOOK THE NEWLYWEDS TO THE RECEPTION. THE MINI CAKES WERE ALL MADE BY KATIE HERSELF. KATIE AND IAN LEAVE THE CHURCH. FOR THEIR FAVOURS, THE COUPLE GAVE THEIR GUESTS HOMEMADE PACKETS OF FORGET-ME-NOT AND FOXGLOVE SEEDS. VINTAGE KEYS ADDED INTEREST TO THE DELICATE BUTTONHOLES. THE STUNNING HANGING WEDDING CAKE. KATIE'S JENNY PACKHAM HEADPIECE. PEARS COVERED IN GOLD LEAF WERE ADDED TO THE PLACE SETTINGS











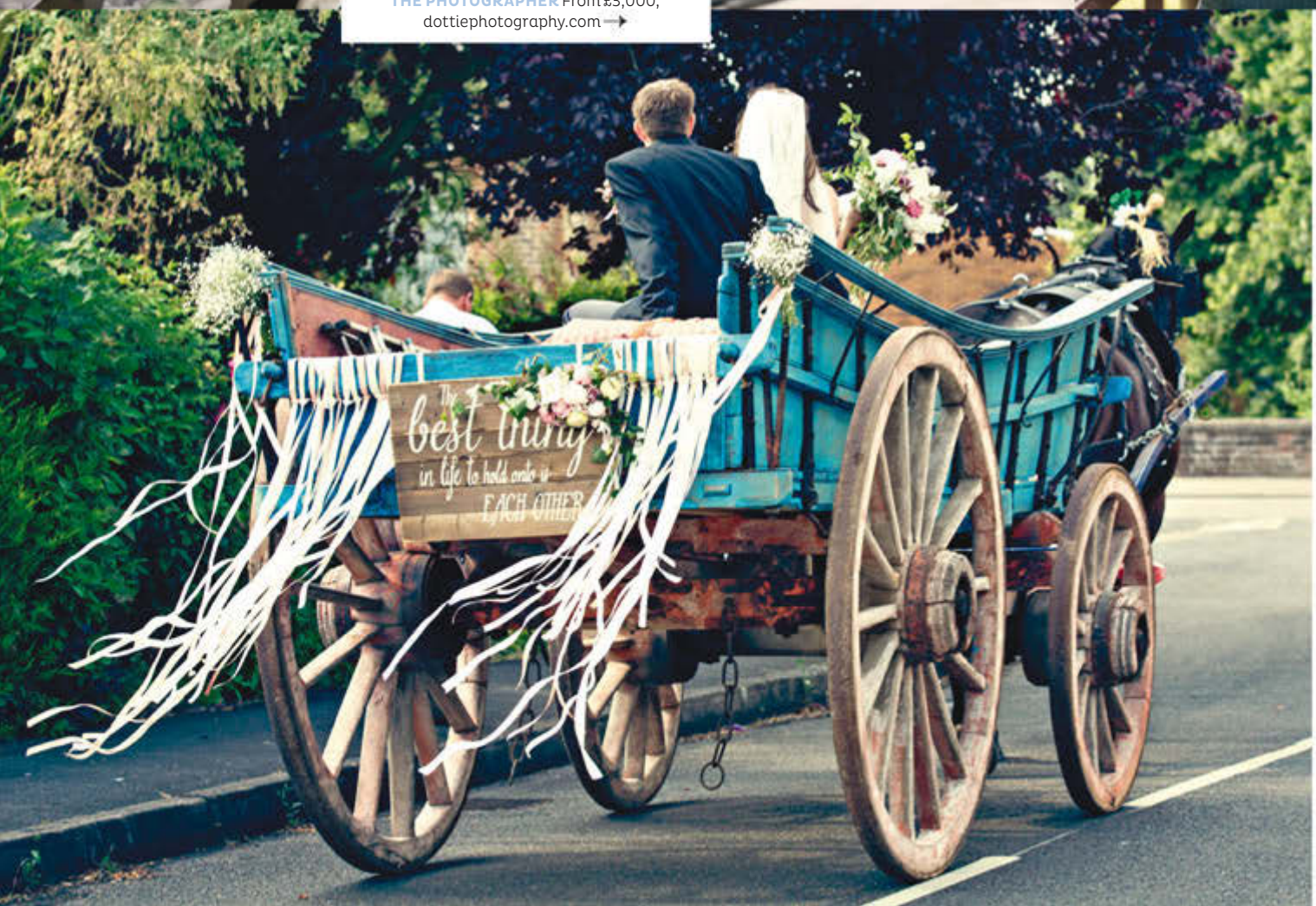






Where they bought it

THE BRIDE Jenny Packham dress, £2,850, thestamfordbridalrooms.co.uk. Headpiece, £380, jennypackham.com
THE GROOM Suit, waistcoat and tie, from £160, to hire, robertgoddard.co.uk
THE BRIDESMAID Dress, £420, edith cattell-customisedbespokecouture.co.uk.
THE FLOWER GIRLS Dresses, £40 each, monsoon.co.uk
THE PAGE BOYS Waistcoats, from £35 each; shorts, from £25 each; bow ties, from £5, and caps, from £21 each, jemsclothing.com
THE CATERING From £60 per person, stoneseuents.co.uk
THE CAKE Five-tier cake, £795; mini cakes, from £7 each, and marshmallow pops, £1.60 each, couture-cakes.co.uk
THE DECOR Marquee with chandeliers, from £5,000, eventsandtents.co.uk. Vintage bottles, from 25p each; pewter teapots, from £4, and hand-painted signs, from £15, all to hire, couture-cakes.co.uk. Bar, £350, to hire, pasttopresentvintagehire.co.uk
THE FLOWERS Bridal bouquet, from £90; maid's bouquet, from £40; buttonhole, from £5; bottle arrangements, from £5 each; small arrangements, from £25 each; church arrangements, from £90 each, and hanging arrangements, £500 each, friends' farms. Similar, bloominggreenflowers.co.uk
THE STATIONERY Invite, £15, dottiecreations.com
THE TRANSPORT Vintage cart, £500, to hire, couture-cakes.co.uk
THE PHOTOGRAPHER From £3,000, dottiephotography.com →





‘The day had a timeless feel of a Fellini film’

Immodesty Blaize, 36, married Gregory Gomond, 30, in Cathédrale De Monaco followed by a reception at Cap Estel in Èze, France, on 13 September 2014. She says:

I’m a burlesque dancer and Greg is PA to Prince Albert of Monaco – we met after I performed in front of the prince!

Monaco law only recognises civil ceremonies, so we first had a civil marriage followed by a blessing in the stunning cathedral. The best bit – I got to wear two amazing dresses!

For my work, I tend to wear lots of corsets and feathers so I wanted my wedding dress to be more ‘bridal’, less ‘showgirl’. For the Catholic blessing, I chose a Spanish-style, French lace dress with a lace cape to cover my décolletage.

Cap Estel had breathtaking views and gardens for our reception. As well as being very private, its art deco style was so gorgeous we didn’t have to do much with the decor. The hotel also has a Michelin-starred chef – which was great as a few of the guests were top chefs themselves.

We kept our palette simple, using just creams and pinks – I wanted to create the romantic, timeless feel of a Fellini film.

Rather than have favours, we filled baskets with pretty lace hand-held fans – the flower girls then handed these out.

My ‘something borrowed’ was a Monaco souvenir magnet hidden in my bouquet.

My top tip: Make sure that you have a co-ordinator on the actual day – even if that means an incredibly organised friend.







How *they* did it

INTERVIEW: SOPHIE CULLEN.
WORDS: ROSALYN WIKELEY





Where they bought it

THE BRIDE Short civil ceremony dress, £800, elizabethavey.com. Shoes, POA, charlotteolympia.com. Cathedral dress and veil, £11,050, thewhitechapel workhouse.com. Headpiece, £750, stephenjonesmillinery.com
THE GROOM Cathedral suit, from £400, blackout2.com. Shirt, £48, zara.com. Tie, from £109, hermes.com
THE FLOWER GIRLS Dresses, POA, jeffmehmet@hotmail.co.uk
THE VENUE From £51,436, including privatisation fee, capestel.com
THE CATERING From £95 per person, Patrick Raingeard at capestel.com
THE CAKE Main cake with dog topper, from £225, bellabaking.co.uk. Eclair tower, POA, capestel.com
THE DECOR Place name, £3.65 for six, etsy.com. Candelabra, from £90, to hire, Concierge, Palais Princier, Monaco
THE FLOWERS Bridal bouquet, from £200; flower girls' bouquets, from £160 each, and candelabra flowers, £100, Concierge, Palais Princier, Monaco
THE PHOTOGRAPHER From £2,500, nicktuckerphotography.com →













CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT THE COUPLE TAKE A MOMENT OUT IN CAP ESTEL'S GARDENS. THEIR MAIN CAKE WAS TOPPED WITH A SUGAR MODEL OF IMMODESTY'S YORKSHIRE TERRIER. THE PAIR BORROWED A FRIEND'S ROLLS-ROYCE FOR THE DAY. THE HOTEL'S ART DECO FACADE. FOR THE CIVIL CEREMONY, THE BRIDE WORE A '50s DRESS WHILE THE GROOM WAS DRESSED IN SLACKS AND LOAFERS. THE MINIMALIST TABLE NAMES. THE CATHEDRAL, WHERE GREGORY'S PARENTS ALSO MARRIED. AS WELL AS THEIR MAIN WEDDING CAKE, THE PAIR HAD A HUGE ECLAIR TOWER. THE TABLES WERE DECORATED WITH ANTIQUE CANDELABRAS. IMMODESTY'S COUTURE GOWN MIXED VINTAGE STYLING WITH HER EUROPEAN ROOTS. THE FLOWER GIRLS WORE ANTIQUE CHRISTENING DRESSES. THE NEWLYWEDS AFTER THE CEREMONY

PHOTOGRAPHER





INTERVIEW: SOPHIE CULLEN. WORDS: ROSALYN WIKELEY

‘We made traditional look relaxed’

Dilpa Sthankiya, 33, married Ben Davies, 32, at Larmer Tree Gardens, Salisbury, on 9 August 2014. She says:

We wanted a wedding that combined a traditional ceremony with a relaxed and lively reception. In the end, we decided on a garden-party theme to make the most of Larmer’s gorgeous grounds.

As we’re not religious, we opted for the venue’s Lower Indian Room instead of a church. It’s a small colonial-style structure set back into the gardens – it reminded us of the houses in Singapore where we live.

Our colour palette consisted of yellows and navy blue. The sunflower fields in Toulouse inspired the yellow – it’s where we stayed before Ben proposed in Barcelona.

We hung yellow and ivory paper lanterns in the pavilion and jam jars filled with LED lights on the trees surrounding it.

The personalised save-the-date tea towels were a real hit with our guests – we held a few back to keep for ourselves.

One of my favourite bands growing up was The Bluetones. Ben thoughtfully organised the lead singer, Mark Morriss, to play an acoustic set during cocktail hour.

Our ‘flare mixologist’ (think Tom Cruise in *Cocktail*) served Dilpa’s Gindian Sling – a take on the Singapore sling – and Ben’s Highland Fling, a whisky-sour cocktail.

My top tip: Take a step back if you’re feeling overwhelmed. Sometimes just stopping for a breather makes you think differently.





How *they* did it







CLOCKWISE FROM TOP FAR LEFT THE SUNFLOWER AND GYPSOPHILA BOUQUETS WERE FINISHED WITH RAFFIA AND CRYSTAL PINS. THE NEWLYWEDS HIRED A BRIGHT RED JAGUAR MARK 2 FOR THEIR BIG DAY. A CUTE SIGN TO THANK GUESTS FOR COMING. THE ADORABLE MINI MAIDS AND PAGEBOYS. THE BRIDAL PARTY ALL EMBRACED THE DAY'S PALETTE OF BRIGHT YELLOW AND NAVY. INSTEAD OF A TRADITIONAL CAKE, THE PAIR OPTED FOR A 'CHEESE CAKE', WHICH THEY SERVED ALONGSIDE MINI PORK PIES AND HONEY-ROASTED HAM. SUNFLOWERS WERE THE PERFECT AISLE DECORATION. DURING THE RECEPTION, NEW ORLEANS-STYLE JAZZ BAND, THE BLIND TIGERS, PROVIDED THE ENTERTAINMENT. DILPA'S CUTE 'MRS DAVIES' NECKLACE. THE SUNFLOWERS GAVE A BURST OF COLOUR TO THE ELEGANT WHITE OF THE DINING HALL. THE COUPLE USED POLAROIDS OF GUESTS AS PLACE CARDS







Where they bought it

THE BRIDE Jenny Packham dress, £3,170, and headpiece, £300, exquisite brides.co.uk. Bracelet, similar from £400, tiffany.co.uk. Necklace, similar from £27, mynamenecklace.co.uk
THE GROOM Suit, £2,000, and shirt, £150, kevinseah.com. Shoes, POA, crockettandjones.com
THE FLOWER GIRLS Dresses, £30 each, marksandspencer.com
THE PAGEBOYS Three-piece suits, £35 each, marksandspencer.com
THE VENUE From £5,000, to hire, larmertree.co.uk
THE 'CAKE' Cheese tower, £569, Forking Out at larmertree.co.uk
THE DECOR Thank-you sign, similar from £6.75, and polaroids, from £30 for 100, notonthehighstreet.com. Jars, from £40, ebay.co.uk
THE FLOWERS Packages from £3,500, Natalie Gardner at flowersby-design.com
THE TRANSPORT Jaguar Mark 2 1962, £260, to hire, superwed.co.uk
THE ENTERTAINMENT Mark Morriss, POA, atc-live.com. The Blind Tigers, £800, theblindtigers.co.uk
THE PLANNER From £3,000, Suzie Prout at rsupwedding.co.uk
THE PHOTOGRAPHER From £1,950, andyrapkins.co.uk →







‘We built our dream venue’

Kari Rosenburg, 27, married Jerome Colmans, 29, at Finca Son Mir in Palma, Mallorca, on 3 July 2014. She says:

We wanted to get married abroad, and Mallorca was an easy choice for us. Both our families have houses there, and it was where Jerome and I had our first kiss!

Our vision for the day was *The Great Gatsby*, with a colour palette of neutral shades and blushes. The venue was covered in gorgeous flowers and looked so beautiful that we didn’t want to compete with it.

The venue’s general manager, Pep, let us have complete creative rein, so we built three separate areas for the ceremony, the reception and the evening party.

Because the venue isn’t a hotel, we didn’t have to observe strict Spanish laws on not playing music outside after midnight – there was nobody around to complain!

I’d had my heart set on a flower wall, but then decided against it because of the cost. But my dad got together with our wedding planners, Javier and Tony, and they created one for us as a last-minute surprise.

Jerome and I both wanted the food to represent our tastes as a couple, so we served our guests a selection of tapas-style dishes, including Egyptian spiced salmon brochettes and watermelon and peach salad, followed by wild sea bass with rosemary fondant potatoes. It was all delicious!

My flowers were a surprise – I didn’t see my bouquet, or the bridesmaids’, until the morning of the actual wedding. But I totally trusted Javier and Tony, and decided to leave it in their expert hands.

My top tip: Get a good wedding planner, if you can. They take away all stress on the day so that you can really enjoy every second.







How *they* did it









INTERVIEW: SOPHIE CULLEN

Where they bought it

THE BRIDE Dress, from £3,000, and veil, POA, carolinecastigliano.co.uk
THE GROOM Suit, POA, dolcegabbana.com. Shirt, £70, thomaspink.com. Tie, from £70, thekooples.co.uk. Shoes, £300, magnanni.com
THE BRIDESMAIDS Maid of honour dress, POA, marchesa.com. Maids' dresses, from £250 each, jcrew.com
THE VENUE POA, to hire, sonmir.net
THE CATERING From £105 per person for three courses, Marc Fosh at sonmir.net
THE FLOWERS Bridal bouquet, £120; maids' bouquets, £65 each; buttonhole, £7.50; reception arrangements, from £500, and flower wall, £220 per sq ft, byappointmentonlydesign.com
THE PLANNERS POA, byappointmentonlydesign.com
THE PHOTOGRAPHER From £3,500, edpeers.com







CLOCKWISE FROM FAR TOP LEFT KARI FIRST MET JEROME WHEN SHE WAS 14 AND HE WAS 16. THE WISTERIA-COVERED GARDEN PAGODA. THE FARMHOUSE AT FINCA SON MIR. THE COUPLE'S WEDDING PLANNERS SORTED OUT THE FLOWERS. THE PALETTE MIXED NEUTRALS AND BLUSHES. THE COUPLE WANTED A *GREAT GATSBY* FEEL. A ROMANTIC DISPLAY. THE MAIDS WORE J CREW BRIDAL. KARI'S FATHER ORGANISED A FLOWER WALL. THE STUNNING BRIDE. ARRANGEMENTS OF DELPHINIUMS, EUCALYPTUS AND ROSES. FRUIT FROM THE FARMHOUSE



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The marriage *effect*

Novelist Emma Straub shares six surprising ways that making it official changed her relationship

Mike and I got married in a hurry – well, as much of a hurry as is possible for a couple who had been together for six years. In June, we finally decided that we were going to do it in just three months' time, with a small ceremony at my parents' house. We picked out flowers, called up a rabbi and crammed around 30 people on to folding chairs in the dining room. I was 28, wearing my mother's wedding dress. It was about as low-key as it could be without us going straight to the register office. And we were as relaxed about the future as we were about the ceremony. Neither of us thought getting married would change our relationship. It turned out we were wildly, hilariously wrong. Here are just a few ways that the challenge of marriage turned out to be different (and better) than just dating →

1 YOU ADDRESS EACH OTHER DIFFERENTLY

It took me about three seconds into the ceremony to know that things were going to change. For starters, our rabbi (also a yoga teacher) referred to us as 'husband and wife', and the words were immediately and acutely electric – funny at first and then wonderfully serious. We started saying them all the time, to waiters and flight attendants and friends, working them into every conversation. I shouldn't have been surprised by the power of words, but these started to feel enormous and weighty, as if our whole bodies had been dipped in gold instead of just our wedding bands. I hadn't thought that anything could feel more serious and permanent than when we moved in together and combined our book collections, but being married made everything that had come before that day feel like a dress rehearsal.

2 YOU LOOK AT THE WORLD DIFFERENTLY

Security is not a sexy word. No one goes to brunch with her girlfriends and coos about how steady she feels. But, for me, it's the best feeling in the world. I was lucky to have a supportive family that always felt like a unit, as solid as a house of bricks. That's what being married feels like – a new house, just as solid, right next door. And if confidence in what we have is sexy, then we're the hottest couple for miles around.

3 THE WORLD LOOKS AT YOU DIFFERENTLY

For some people, being married doesn't substantially change things. But, to me, it makes things different, because it's a highly public act of faith, hope and optimism. Most of the time, we keep our hopes and dreams tucked safely out of sight, but getting married puts them on display, like cakes in a bakery window. And that mere act turns the relationship into something that others – your friends, your family – have a stake in. You have a standard to live up to for the rest of your lives, but you've also got all these other people cheering you on and helping you hit the mark.



'Most of the time, we keep our hopes and dreams tucked safely out of sight, but getting married puts them on display, like cakes in a bakery window'

4 YOU FIGHT DIFFERENTLY

In each of my previous relationships, all I'd needed was an itchy trigger finger and then it was done – *poof*, over – usually around the six-month mark. When Mike and I fought before, getting out was always an option. We did break up once, after about a year. The split lasted a month, but only because I was out of the country. If I'd been home, it would've been three days; if we'd already been married, it wouldn't have even been a fight. Of course, marriages can end, but not capriciously. Being married means that there are structures to be dismantled, paperwork to be filled out. Marriage means sticking it out, knowing that there will be storms but that the boat is sturdy.

5 YOU WORK DIFFERENTLY

One of the most satisfying shifts in changing from an established couple to a married one is the feeling that everything we do is for both of us. When I sold my first novel, Mike and I both cried together. It had been a long time coming; there were four previous books, all of which had been rejected, and Mike had been there for all of them. The first thing that I said to him after the offer came in was that we now had the money we needed to renovate our basement to become his graphic-design studio. This made both of us cry even harder. It was my success, sure, but more than that, it was ours, as a couple. I may have written all the words for the novel, but he had given me the space I needed to actually write them. It was our triumph together.

6 TIME MOVES DIFFERENTLY

It's been six years now – the same amount of time that we were together before we got married. I brought this up with Mike the other day and asked him which he thought felt longer. He said the first six years, and I agree. The time it took for us to get from being strangers working in the same office to being a married couple felt like 100 lifetimes, each with multiple possible outcomes, just like choosing your own adventure book. Being together – married and a team – has made the last six years feel like the blink of an eye.



Emma Straub's latest novel, *The Vacationers*, is out now (Picador, £7.99)

PHOTOGRAPHS: CHRIS CRAYMER/ TRUNK ARCHIVE, GETTY IMAGES



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Would you join the *eloping* trend?

Does the idea of ditching your family and getting married, just the two of you, make your heart sing... or make you a bit sad? According to Linda Perry, wedding co-ordinator at Millbrook Estate in Devon: 'We have seen a 50% rise in couples eloping – and even have a 'runaway weddings' service that caters to this. In over half of these marriages, the wedding is so small, hotel staff have been asked to act as the witnesses!' So, should your day be a family affair or an intimate do for two? We asked two writers to battle it out…

'YES! It's all the fun – with none of the stress'

POLLY BEYNON, 38, MARRIED LUKE SOWERBY, 37, AFTER JUST SIX WEEKS OF PLANNING, WHIZZING OFF TO NEW YORK FOR A 20-MINUTE CEREMONY FOLLOWED BY A WEDDING BREAKFAST FOR FOUR

'On my wedding day, it was just me, my husband and a quickie ceremony at New York's City Hall – and I wouldn't have had it any other way. There were no dramas, no worries, and no nagging exhaustion from months of preparation, just the joy of knowing we'd started our married life in liberated style. The ceremony was beautiful, albeit short, and as we strolled out into the sunny September morning, pausing only for our two witnesses (friends who lived in New York) to take a picture, I couldn't have felt happier or more relaxed. Heading uptown for a wedding brunch for four felt deliciously decadent. No hours of photos or trying to talk to hundreds of guests; just fun, so much laughter, and a day we had truly made our own.

From Luke's proposal to the wedding itself was just six weeks. Neither of us wanted the church-and-marquee thing, so eloping made sense. Plus, we saved a fortune. Although we spent around £6,000, it would have been a lot more if we'd had to cater for hundreds of guests. And we wanted our day to be about the two of us enjoying it, not drowning in the details of a huge party.

Did the day feel any less special? Hell, no. I still wore an ivory gown with a train and carried a bouquet. We had champagne and a bespoke cake, and we'd each prepared a little speech, written on cards – I've kept these, along with pictures, in a gorgeous wedding album.

The only slight downer was dropping the bombshell to family and friends. My best friend was so sad she wasn't there on our special day, but she totally understood, as did our relatives.

Attending big weddings since, I've wondered whether we were selfish to elope. Yes, probably. But we have no regrets. Our big day was crazy, sexy and cool, and I'm sure a lot of our more traditionally wedded friends secretly wish they'd done the same.'

'NO! You'll miss out on those special moments'

DEBORAH JOSEPH, 40, TIED THE KNOT WITH ADAM CLYNE, 37, IN FRONT OF MORE THAN 400 GUESTS AT A GRADE II-LISTED HOTEL, THEN PARTIED TILL THE EARLY HOURS TO A LIVE BAND

'In the most difficult moments of wedding-planning stress – when my mum was being over-controlling, my guest list was beginning to hit 400 and I was really struggling to juggle a demanding job with the juggernaut of details piling up in my head – I would lie in bed, dreaming of eloping to the Maldives. Just me and my fiancé, Adam. No stress. No headaches.

Then reality took over. How could I tie the knot without my two beautiful grandmas there to witness it? And my traditional parents, who'd always dreamed of seeing me getting married. My siblings. My cousins. My friends. How could I possibly take my vows without them there to share my special moment?

No girlfriends to dance with, laugh with, cry tears of joy with, reapply my make-up with. No university friends to drink Sambuca shots with at midnight as the band played a cheesy Abba medley that got young and old dancing like they were teenagers again. Wouldn't it be lonely? Isolated? Sad, even?

Now, nine years on, do I even remember the arguments over the shapes of the napkins? Of course not. And in spite of our massive guest list (yes, we ended up inviting more guests than we thought – think the wedding scene in *The Godfather*) and my near panic attack as I walked up the aisle with everyone watching me intently, when Adam and I stood there gazing into each other's eyes and took our vows, there were only the two of us in that room.

It was as intimate as if we'd eloped, but so much better. Because, on one of the most important days of our lives (topped only by the birth of our two children, Jack and Kitty), we were surrounded by everyone we loved. Everyone who loved us. That, I can tell you, is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity not to be missed.' B

PHOTOGRAPHS: ROB DOBSON, WARREN SHAFFER PHOTOGRAPHY

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7 heroes to save the (big) day!

Who can you *really* turn to in your bridal hour of need? In a cast of thousands, it's the least likely people who will save you, says Viv Groskop

Your bridal go-to crew isn't as obvious as you might think. Aside from the big-day stalwarts, like the chief bridesmaid and the best man, your supporting cast deserves some serious props, too. Because it's quite possible that the most memorable touches will come from the unsung heroes of the day: the arty friend; the second cousin with a passion for Argentinian tango; the Mary Berry-obsessed colleague. God bless these angels-in-waiting who you can mercilessly tap up to make your life a little easier in the run-up to the wedding and on the day itself.

So, where are *your* heroes? Take a look – they're all around you…

Your mother's best friend, Rosemary

Spot her: The one dabbing edible sparkle on to the cake with a paintbrush at the last minute

Yes, you were a bit dubious when your mum forced you to invite her. But guess what? Rosemary is obsessed with *The Great British Bake Off* and is Mary Berry's natural heir. She is the person to turn to for a towering cupcake tower to die for – or (personalised?) biscuits as wedding favours. Give her a budget for the Jane Asher online store and everyone at your wedding will be in sweet-treat heaven. Beware Rosemary's limitations, though: she might be brilliant at fiddly decorating but it turns out her sponge tastes horribly soapy. Give her a trial run to keep her happy (but remember to keep The Hummingbird Bakery on speed-dial).

Your quiet neighbour

Spot them: The one you see on the bus, doing a Cara Delevingne and knitting herself a super-cool beanie

There is nothing she would love more than to hand-stitch fabric place cards for every last one of your reception tables. Let her loose on eBay with some fabric swatches →

and she'll transform your venue before you can say, 'bespoke bunting'. Perhaps suggest an 'artsy' hen night where she can get all your friends working on those crafty (but time-consuming) little touches?

Your waaaay confident 20-year-old cousin

Spot her: The one harassing the DJ to play One Direction's *Steal My Girl*

Of course you want to have a beautiful first dance with your new husband (if that's your thing). But afterward, you need a woman – preferably in a sexy, fitted dress, as happened at my wedding – to take to the dancefloor, make like Beyoncé and get everyone else up on their feet. And you can join in if you feel like it, without thinking that everyone is staring at you (they will be staring at Sexy Dress Girl, make no mistake about that). Or you can gracefully retire and drink champagne. And if your designated Wedding Dancer doesn't emerge, then make the best man and the matron of honour do a twirl together to get the party started. That's what they're there for.

Your male friend

Spot him: The one with the beady eye (and not drinking) near the free bar

Let's face it, weddings can be a rather girlie affair. It preserves your sanity to have at least one man-friend around – ideally someone who has known you for years. A brother or a cousin will do, too. Their primary job is to be Emergency Man, a sort of unofficial understudy for the best man, groom and bride's father who will be on hand if Something Goes Wrong (he's also useful as a shoulder to cry on for drunk bridesmaids and work friends). Note: a teetotaller is your ideal for this role. Invite him to the first hour of the hen party as the event's official unofficial photographer (to stop him from feeling left out).



Your best (work) friend

Spot her: The one steering away overexcited guests demanding that you, the bride, do 'just one more selfie'

She has seen you through every wedding dress fitting for the past six months, and so she knows how much this date really means to you. She comes into her own on the big day as a sanity-saving gate-keeper-cum-bodyguard, tactfully shepherding any over-eager guests away from the train of your perfect, carefully chosen gown. Note: she is not to be confused with the nightmare colleague whose idea of fun has been to diss all your carefully thought through ideas 'because I saw a cupcake tower at three weddings last year'.

Your OCD ex-flatmate

Spot her: The one with a J-cloth poking out of her clutch bag

Everyone has a friend like this, who can't bear *any* mess and is always cleaning. This person would kill to be left in charge of the canapé clear-up after the welcome drinks, the between-courses arrangements at the dinner, and the display of any candles and centrepiece. Give her these responsibilities and she'll reward you with excessive attention to detail. Remember to give her the 'thank-you present' in advance – a huge designer handbag that she can carry any emergency cleaning products in.

Your social media 'pal'

Spot her: The one whose username shows constantly in your Favourites search, whose Pinterest posts you 'Like' without even thinking about it

She will not come to your wedding, you will never meet her and you may never even know her real name (unless you're following *Brides* on Pinterest, in which case, it's the online content editor, Sam!). She's the person who posts the very best wedding stuff, whose ideas you mercilessly plunder and steal. She's exactly like you but with better taste, more creativity and more time on her hands to source decor. Find her and you'll never need to have any inspiration of your own ever again. B

You've met the angels, now meet the villains...

- **THE TOURISTS** standing in the aisle of the church or just outside the gates, eagerly filming the entirety of your wedding.
- **THE EX-BOYFRIEND** who cries because 'It should have been me'.
- **THE RETIRED BANK-MANAGER-TURNED-DJ** (booked by your mum) who has several of his own special dance moves, culminating in a routine to *You'll Never Walk Alone*.
- **THE FOUR-YEAR-OLD FLOWER GIRL** who refuses to emerge from the loo until you and only you (the bride) comes immediately and wipes her bottom.
- **THE SISTER-IN-LAW** who takes 12,407 photos, including 4,495 close-ups of your chin, and then afterwards sends them to everyone in a special digital wedding album, minus the edit.

ILLUSTRATIONS: BARBARA SPOETTEL REPRESENTED BY NEW DIVISION


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WEDDING Insider

On Arabella Dupont's radar this month: suave suiting and mega gems



TREND ALERT

All hail Ian Stuart's new collection stocked at his handsome new home, Blewcoat in London. Located in the regal realms of St James's Park and Buckingham Palace, the pretty boutique is teeming with couture creations. Ian's tip for this year? Go big – think Marie Antoinette from head to toe.

EMBROIDERED FRENCH-TULLE AND TAFFETA DRESS WITH SHRUG, £8,500, IANSTUART-BLEWCOAT.COM

He's the Don!

...Don Draper, that is. For a groom who covets the super-cool ad man's '50s style, check out Favourbrook's sleek 2015 Tailoring Collection. There are 10 different suits, four fabrics and gorgeous colours, like this azure blue.

JACKET, £510; TROUSERS, £220; SHIRT, £110, AND TIE, £65, FAVOURBROOK.COM



5 of the best... sparklers

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1.56CT DIAMOND AND WHITE-GOLD EARRINGS, £5,750, THEOFENNELL.COM

MINI-MOON vs MAJOR AIRMILES

Crete's Blue Palace Resort & Spa gets our vote for the swishiest of short breaks. At this cliff-top hotspot (inset) you can sail into the sunset or try every watersport out there. But if it's relaxation you're after, the spa is sensational: book the Elounda Thalasso Ritual, which combines a hydro massage bath followed by a marine mud wrap. For a longer trip, the new Sandals LaSource, Grenada (below), is the one. The all-inclusive rule stretches to *everything*, from champagne poolside to Wagyu beef at Butch's Chop House (sublime).

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Designer Profile



Claire Pettibone



ANTIQUE TULLE AND PLATINUM SILK DRESS, £4,590



LACE AND PEARL SILK DRESS, £4,990

The US bridal designer on gothic glam, and how being a tourist for the day inspired her new collection

You're renowned for creating beautiful, ethereal gowns. Where do you look for new ideas? I am constantly inspired by the beauty around me; whether in a flower, a painting or a piece of lace, it all comes together in a theme for the season. Once I have my concept in mind, I begin developing fabrics and, from there, the dresses begin to take shape.

Which is your favourite part of the design process? I love designing the fabrics, sketching the embroideries and laying out the colours of thread and beadwork. But there's nothing like seeing the initial idea blossom into the finished sample.

How long does it take from inspiration to a runway-ready dress? About nine months. I began work on the Gothic Angel collection in January, then the show was in October.

What can we expect from this season's collection? This season is probably the most opulent of my career. The idea for Gothic Angel came from a trip to London in December 2013; walking through Westminster Abbey got me thinking about all that ornate detail, the gilded features and stained-glass windows. From there, I began to look at gothic architecture across the world, and of course, my bride was the angel of this magical place!

Do you have a favourite dress? I have three! The Notre Dame gown, with its blue and bronze French lace and beadwork on the back; Raphaella, with its blue silk under intricate embroidery and lace 'angel-wing' sleeves; and, finally, the pure, classic romantic look of Angelica.



THE GOTHIC ANGEL COLLECTION WAS INSPIRED BY A TRIP TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Which living person do you most admire, and why? My father, the artist Richard Pettibone. He has never been motivated by money or fame and he taught me how important it is to love what you do!

What do you consider your greatest achievement? Launching and then growing my business in partnership with my husband, Guy Toley, and seeing it thrive over the past 20 years (while remaining happily married!).

What is your most treasured possession? A vintage diamond ring that my husband gave me when we found out we were expecting our first child.

Which celebrities have you dressed for their big day? Priscilla Chan-Zuckerberg (left), Elisabeth Moss (*Mad Men*)… also, Cameron Diaz was the maid of honour for one of my brides, and I designed her dress!

If there is one star who epitomises the Claire Pettibone brand, who is it? I have to stick with my classic, Kate Moss. She just exudes a relaxed, boho, effortlessly gorgeous vibe.

CLAIRE SAYS THAT KATE MOSS'S STYLE EPITOMISES HER WEDDING BRAND



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Designer Profile

Emma Victoria Payne





EMMA'S SKETCH OF HER FAVOURITE 'DELPHINE' GOWN



DUCHESS-SATIN AND FRENCH CHANTILLY LACE DRESS, £3,595

The London designer on working for Galliano, her love of lace and how to pick the best veil for you

Where does your love of design come from? As a child I always adored making things; I was given my first sewing machine aged eight. I studied fashion with print at Central Saint Martins, and went on to design for John Galliano in Paris, and Levi Strauss in Brussels, where I won the *Elle* Style Award for Denim Designer of the Year. It was while I was working in Paris that I fell in love with the elegance of vintage silhouettes and bias-cut styles. I knew then I wanted to make dresses that capture a romantic feel, so I chose bridal over ready-to-wear.

What can a bride-to-be expect if she comes to Emma Victoria Payne? As well as offering a made-to-measure collection, I also provide a bespoke service. Having a couture gown made for you is a totally unique experience, and one that should be treasured. I involve the bride-to-be at every stage – from the initial sketch to selecting all the fabrics – to ensure that each bride's dream gown is everything that she wished it would be. (Made-to-measure dresses cost from £2,850, while bespoke gowns start at £5,000.)

Who or what inspires you? My great-great-grandfather was a lace designer in 1880s Nottingham and the patterns that he created are so wonderful. Lace has such a romantic, timeless quality – my own 2015 collection features full lace overlays, as well as delicate lace trimmings.

If you could pick any woman to design a dress for, who would she be? Audrey Hepburn – she was so effortlessly chic.

Which of your gowns would you choose to wear and why? I love the delicacy of French Chantilly lace, so for me it has to be the 'Delphine' (top left and right) – the subtle silhouette and striking pearl button detailing across the back are so pretty.

Veils are... not essential. Though, when else are you going to wear one? Brides can be intimidated when it comes to choosing a veil but there are so many options, you can really have fun with the style – vary the length or add ribbon edges and embellishments.

Which venue would you most like to dress a bride for? It would have to be The Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew. The gardens are so gorgeous – the perfect setting for a wedding. I chose this venue to shoot my 2015 collection, mainly for the contrast between the structural architecture of the conservatories against the natural environment in the gardens. Also I felt the colourings would work well alongside my collection.

In three words describe an Emma Victoria Payne bride... Modern, elegant and timeless.



EMBROIDERED FRENCH TULLE AND CRÊPE DRESS, £3,550

CRÊPE-SATIN AND FRENCH CHANTILLY LACE DRESS, £3,650



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ONLINE

COCKTAILS ARE SERVED!

IF YOU ENJOYED THE CHAMPAGNE-BASED COCKTAILS ON PAGE 65 (AND OF COURSE YOU DID) WE'VE GOT EVEN MORE TASTY TIPPLES FOR YOU TO SAVOUR. LOG ON TO BRIDESMAGAZINE.CO.UK AND CHECK OUT OUR PICK OF THE BEST DRINKS TO SERVE ON THE DAY (HAPPY GUESTS GUARANTEED).

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Award-winning stationery for the discerning bride. The Whole Caboodle creates exquisite stationery using the finest materials and with exceptional attention to detail. Call Lorraine on 01803 813726 or visit their website for the latest news, designs and inspiration at whole-caboodle.co.uk

7 HEATHER MARTEN

Heather Marten has been designing wedding stationery since 2001 and creates the wedding invitations you want – beautiful, simple, elegant and, above all, striking. This new Brompton design, is printed on super-thick 900gsm Colour-seam board. Her designs will tantalise your guests with a glimpse of the stylish occasion that awaits them. Call 01590 672 778, visit theweddinginvitation.co.uk, or take a look at the new online store at heathermarten.co.uk

8 EAGLE EYED BRIDE

Eagle Eyed Bride is the go-to brand for stylish, creative wedding stationery. Adorned with shiny foils or pretty prints, through to classic letterpress, there is something to suit every taste. Highlights include their signature tag-style Luxe Invitations, and fabulous hummingbird wine glass place cards: Choose the look that chimes with you the most! Visit eagleeyedbride.com or call 020 8226 6040 for a natter.

9 THE WREN PRESS

Acclaimed printers to The Royal Family, The Wren Press creates truly luxurious bespoke wedding stationery, traditional and contemporary. They have their own in-house typesetters, knowledgeable and creative account managers and team of highly-skilled printers, craftsmen and finishers. The chosen stationery partner for the Brides Magazine 60th Anniversary Ball. Call 020 7351 5887 or email info@wrenpress.com



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THE BRIDES WEDDING

Congratulations, you're engaged! Not sure where to start?



AND YOU'RE OFF!

BANISH WEDMIN STRESS WITH THE HELP OF OUR CRUCIAL 12-MONTH TO-DO CALENDAR

START HERE

12 MONTHS TO GO...

- Have the budget conversation with your fiancé and your parents
- Fix a date and time
- Decide on guest numbers
- Book a reception venue



11 MONTHS TO GO...

- Send save-the-dates
- Book a photographer and videographer (check photos can be shot in the venue)
- Book a band or DJ
- Make appointments to try on wedding dresses



10 MONTHS TO GO...

- Pick your bridesmaids, ushers and best man
- Decide on your dress – allow at least six months for a made-to-measure gown to be delivered
- Start thinking about a honeymoon, including the cost, season and flights

9 MONTHS TO GO...

- Find a florist and discuss buttonholes, bouquets and the displays
- Taste and confirm your menu and drinks with your caterer
- Choose and order your bridesmaid outfits

8 MONTHS TO GO...

- If you're marrying in a church, discuss readings with the minister or priest, and music with the musicians
- If it's a civil ceremony, enquire about what readings and music are permitted
- Order invitations and envelopes, as well as place names and menus



7 MONTHS TO GO...

- Book transport to the ceremony and reception for you and your bridal party
- Organise transport to take you to your first-night hotel or the airport
- Order your wedding cake
- Choose and order favours

6 MONTHS TO GO...

- Remind your fiancé to get his and the ushers' outfits
- Pick your wedding rings
- Confirm the order of service with your priest or registrar, then have guest booklets printed. If you have a choir, they need copies, too
- Choose gifts for the wedding party



5 MONTHS TO GO...

- Go honeymoon clothes shopping!
- Book a hairdresser and style consultation (do this earlier if you plan to grow your hair)
- Book your make-up artist and trial appointments



4 MONTHS TO GO...

- If you'll change your name, renew your passport now or do it after you have your honeymoon. The officiating minister or registrar will sign the form
- Get any inoculations or visas needed for your honeymoon
- Talk hen and stag night plans with your friends

3 MONTHS TO GO...

- Pick a company and start gift-list window shopping!
- Book for a colour and trim
- Organise a rehearsal and inform those who will need to be there
- Attend a reading of the banns, if you'll marry in a church



2 MONTHS TO GO...

- Send invitations and keep a spreadsheet of acceptances
- Try on your whole outfit and book any other beauty treatments

1 MONTH TO GO...

- Confirm numbers with caterers and organise a seating plan
- Order holiday currency
- Have your final cut and colour two weeks before the wedding
- Go on your hen and stag nights – it's time to party!







PLANNER

Check out our essential guide to keeping everything on track

18 facts every bride should know

STEP ONE IS TO VISIT VENUES – with *three* potential dates that you already know suit you, your parents and his parents.
AT POPULAR VENUES, Saturdays during the summer can be booked up years in advance. Heart set on a venue? Marrying on a Thursday or Friday is a popular option.
BOOK CEREMONY AND RECEPTION VENUES at the same time to ensure both are available on your chosen date.
MANY VENUES INSIST ON PREFERRED SUPPLIERS, so settle this early so you know what to budget for.
ONCE YOU'VE CHOSEN YOUR VENUE and signed on the dotted line, plan a rough list of the number of guests you want.
AS A *GENERAL* RULE OF THUMB, around 10 - 20% of the people you invite will RSVP with a decline.
A CIVIL CEREMONY CAN TAKE PLACE in a register office or any other place licensed to hold weddings under the Marriage Act. Unless you're marrying at a register office, you'll need a registrar.
IF YOU WISH TO MARRY IN SCOTLAND but are living elsewhere in the UK, you may marry in a civil (or humanist) ceremony by submitting notice forms to the registrar more than 15 days in advance.
IF YOU WANT TO MARRY IN A CATHOLIC CHURCH, one of you must be a baptised Catholic. A preparation course from one day to six weeks may be required.
TO WED IN A CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHURCH, one of you needs to have lived nearby for six months or been baptised there. See yourchurchwedding.org for info.
A JEWISH WEDDING NORMALLY TAKES PLACE IN A SYNAGOGUE, but can also be held in other venues.



HUMANISM IS A NON-RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHICAL MOVEMENT that provides marriage ceremonies. They can take place anywhere, but are not legally binding in England and Wales so couples have a civil ceremony, too.
'BANNS' ARE A LEGAL REQUIREMENT for Church of England weddings. Your marriage is announced on three Sundays in the three months before your wedding, in your parish church and in the church where the ceremony will occur.
'GIVING NOTICE' IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT in the UK that formalises your intent to marry, and must be done at least 15 days before your wedding. Visit direct.gov.uk for more info.

YES, YOU CAN EXCHANGE VOWS at *any* time of day in England or Wales, under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2002.
YOU CAN GET MARRIED ON ANY DAY, but churches are busy and local authorities are closed on Sundays, making it unlikely.
IN SCOTLAND A CEREMONY can take place outdoors, but in England and Wales the ceremony needs to be in a 'permanent structure', such as a pagoda.
TO MARRY ABROAD, you need to satisfy both the requirements of British law *and* the laws in the country where you'll wed. For example, you may need a Nulla Osta (in Italy), a document confirming there is no reason why you cannot marry. For more information, visit fco.gov.uk. →



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Now for the stats!

WHEN WILL YOU MARRY?

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
1%	3%	2%	7%	15%	10%

JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
12%	20%	14%	8%	5%	3%

THE AVERAGE BRIDE VISITS FIVE BOUTIQUES BEFORE FINDING HER DRESS

44% of weddings abroad are in Europe

38% of you will use a planner



The average bride has THREE adult attendants and ONE child

78% of you say the current economic climate has not affected your wedding plans

THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF GUESTS? 106

47% of couples are making the biggest contribution towards their own wedding, while **25%** say that their parents are paying the most

COUPLES START PLANNING THEIR HONEYMOON AN AVERAGE OF FIVE MONTHS AFTER THE PROPOSAL

Let's talk money

It's time to sit down and have the money chat. Here's what the average *Brides* reader will spend...

WEDDING VENUE	£2,223
RECEPTION VENUE	£4,189
CATERERS	£3,063
PHOTOGRAPHER	£1,399
FLOWERS	£560
CAKE	£296
DJ/BAND	£682
STATIONERY	£240
WEDDING DRESS	£1,340
SHOES	£107
HEADDRESS/VEIL	£108
ATTENDANTS' OUTFITS	£465
MOTHER-OF-THE-BRIDE	£337
GROOM'S OUTFIT	£313
BEAUTY	£220
ENGAGEMENT RING	£2,451
WEDDING RINGS	£647
OTHER WEDDING JEWELLERY	£191
HONEYMOON	£3,931
GIFT LIST	£1,954

TOTAL AVERAGE COST : £24,716

*ALL FIGURES AND PERCENTAGES ARE TAKEN FROM *BRIDES*' READER SURVEY 2012. PHOTOGRAPHS: JODY TODD, TODD MARSHARD, JOE HILL, GRAHAM SHEARER

WEDMIN WONDERS

CLICK ON:

Bridestheshow.co.uk
Your go-to site for the latest news, inspiration, and how to book tickets to the hottest bridal event in town

Etsy.com
The best website for quirky details and must-have stationery

BHLDN.com
The loveliest wedding trends stateside

DOWNLOAD:

Appy Couple
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***Brides'* Wedding Planner**
Get on top of *everything*, from choosing your dress to booking that vital honeymoon

Vine
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Editor Jade Beer on what's happening right now in the *Brides* office

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The go-to blogger and author, for DIY, fashion and beauty tips

5 things you'll always overspend on

The venue Don't forget VAT!
The bar tab Put a cap on it.
The dress You didn't mean to but then you saw it...
Stationery Hands up who didn't include the price of stamps in the budget?
The honeymoon Check out *Brides*' annual Top 100 Honeymoon Guide and you'll see why!









Traditional VS Twist

THE CONVENTIONAL RUNNING ORDER

THE CEREMONY. Ask the person marrying you for a full order of service.
FORMAL PHOTOGRAPHS are typically taken outside the venue, including group shots.
THE RECEIVING LINE, whereby the couple and their parents greet each guest as they enter the reception venue.
THE WEDDING BREAKFAST aka the first meal of your married life!
THE BRIDE'S FATHER'S SPEECH is traditionally a tear-jerker, which includes special memories and ends with a toast to the couple.
THE BRIDEGROOM'S SPEECH thanks the bride's parents for their help, compliments his new wife and toasts the attendants.
THE BEST MAN'S SPEECH introduces the groom to the bride's family, and is expected to provide a witty romp through the groom's highs and lows.
CUTTING THE CAKE FOLLOWS THE SPEECHES. The couple make the first cut, usually with an accompanying photo, then it's whisked away to be sliced and served.
THE FIRST DANCE SEES THE BRIDE AND GROOM TAKE TO THE FLOOR. Traditionally, the bride then dances with her father and the groom with his mother, then you can freestyle from there…
BOUQUET THROWING is the usual send-off from the happy couple. Supposedly, whoever catches it will be the next bride – so hands at the ready!

GO YOUR OWN WAY WITH THESE NEW IDEAS

THE SOCIAL SIDE is the starting point for modern weddings, as it's a chance to catch up with friends. Think a beach barbecue or boozy brunch as guests arrive the day before. It's your party-to-end-all-parties, so you want bonding time before the main event!
THE OFFICIAL BIT can be anything from a Humanist ceremony on the beach to a 15-minute dash into a register office while guests mill around outside, drinks in hand.
PHOTOGRAPHS MATTER more than ever in the age of blogs and Facebook, but now it's all about photo booths and reportage-style snaps throughout the day. Many couples don't want to break up the party for group shots.
THE MEAL HAS MOVED ON FROM A SIT-DOWN AFFAIR. Think food stations available throughout the day (everything from festival-style burrito vans to cocktail caravans) so guests can refuel when they want to and not when they're told.
SPEECHES ARE NO LONGER JUST FOR THE BOYS. Hey, women are better at talking! Brides might deliver a funny toast to their husband, while chief bridesmaids show videos of the bride dancing to Mariah at uni. The one rule? Keep it short and sweet.
DANCING IS NOW A WHOLE LOT LESS CRINGEWORTHY. See rockaoke.co.uk (karaoke with a live band) and thesilentclub.co.uk (a silent disco with headphones) for inspiration.



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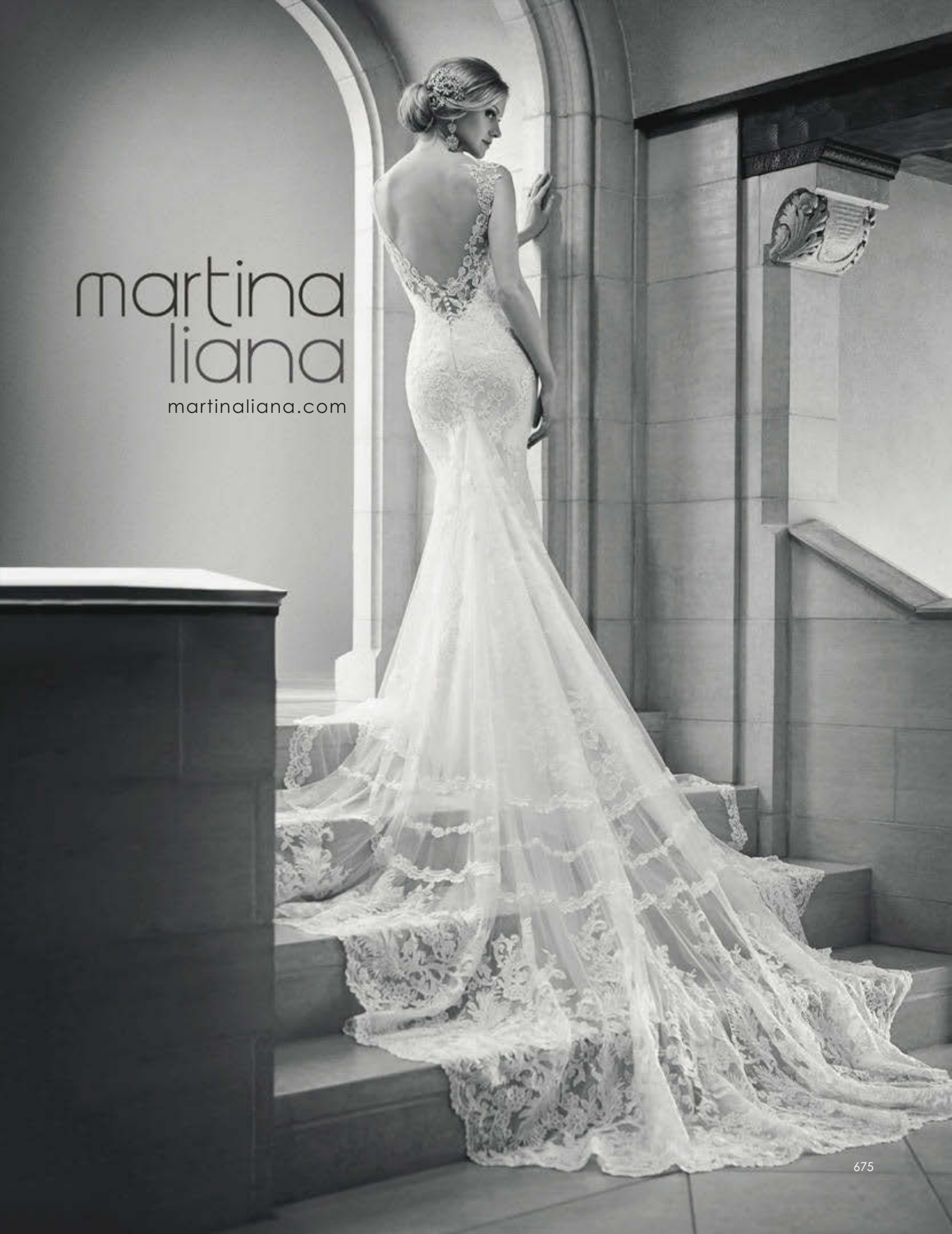
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it's all about... The dress

GET READY TO FALL IN FASHION LOVE



Step inside our winter's tale...

Tulle dress with printed corset, from £3,415, dauldfielden.co.uk. **Leather shoulder piece,** £470, unaburke.com



Lace and organza dress, £1,770, and **lace and tulle jacket,** £300, lusanmandongus.com. **Lace collar,** £75, MetamorphDK at etsy.com →



For a magical mix...

of ice-queen elegance, fairytale gowns and folklore mystery, fall for Baroque high necks, textured tulle and bejewelled satin and lace – all kept under wraps in cover-ups of feathers, wool and leather

Photographs **CARL BENGTSSON** *Styling* **BRYONY TOOGOOD**



Hooded wool cape, £155, tarastarlet.com. **Swarovski-crystal, gold-plated crown,** £1,285, basiazarzycka.com *Opposite:* **Duchess-silk dress,** from £4,500, Alan Hannah Couture at alanhannah.co.uk. **Swarovski-crystal bonnet,** £900, prudencemillinery.com. **Crystal handpiece,** from £785, Erickson Beamon at selfridges.com. **Fawn,** from £76.50, to hire, londontaxidermy.com. **7ft artificial trees,** £109.99 each, and **5ft artificial trees,** £57.99 each, festive-lights.com →







Silk-gazar dress with cape and pearl shoulder piece, POA, ashistudio.com. **Wool-mix tights,** £24, Falke at mytights.com. **Tulle and leather boots,** £229.99, harrietwilde.com
Opposite: **Organza and lace shirt** and **lace ruffled skirt,** POA, Atelier Pronovias at pronovias.co.uk →





Tulle and silk dress, POA, Gold Label at vivienneswestwood.com. **Sterling-silver ring,** from £70, lestrouvaillesdelsa.fr. **Swarovski-crystal and faux-pearl ear cuff,** £336, busardi.com. **Owl,** from £90, to hire, londontaxidermy.com. **7ft and 5ft artificial trees,** as before
Opposite: **Embellished silk-chiffon dress,** £1,999, essense designs.com/martina-liana. **Feather capelet,** from £100 MetamorphDK at etsy.com →



Tulle dress, £4,950, Vera Wang at brownsfashion.com/bride. **Lace and leather heels,** £460, biondacastana.com. **Crown; wool-mix tights** and **7ft and 5ft artificial trees,** as before
Opposite: **Lace dress,** from £2,570; **Mongolian lamb poncho,** from £3,690, and **headpiece,** POA, theiacouture.com. **Leather gloves,** from £140, inesgloves.com. **7ft and 5ft artificial trees,** as before

Hair: Piero at MW Management. **Make-up:** Chase Aston at Carol Hayes using MAC skincare and make-up, and Essie Nails. **Model:** Shane at Premier Model Management. **Digi tech:** Jimmy Tang. **Fashion assistants:** Lucinda Turner and Robyn Hamilton. **With thanks to** True, the Siberian husky





She BANGS!

IT'S TIME TO MAKE SOME (STYLISH) NOISE WITH COOL TAILORING AND TUX DETAILING, OR SEXY DRESSES IN EMBELLISHED TULLE AND LACE

Photographs **ED MILES**
Styling **BRYONY TOOGOOD**

BRIDE: Embroidered lace dress with gemstones, POA, Atelier Pronovias at pronovias.co.uk. **Crystal earrings,** £220, dannijo.com. **Gold-vermeil ring,** £230, assyalondon.com. **Bouquet** (Black Baccara, Red Naomi, Rubycon and Passion roses), £120, jensjakobsen.co.uk **GROOM: Wool jacket,** £265; **wool trousers,** £125, and **cotton shirt,** £79, reiss.com. **Microphone,** £175, and **cable,** £9.99, reddogmusic.com

(Opposite) **BRIDE: Lace and tulle dress,** £1,665, Tara Keely at jlmcouture.com. **Swarovski-crystal earrings,** £111, Claudia Baldazzi at boticca.com. **Gold-plated cuff,** £113.50, Eina Ahluwalia at boticca.com. **Felt hat,** £110, christys-hats.com. **Bouquet** (skimmia, pieris foliage and ranunculus), from £80, jane-packer.co.uk **GROOM: Wool blazer,** £369, and **wool trousers,** £169, tigerofsweden.com. **Cotton shirt,** £79, and **silk tie,** £39, reiss.com. **Pocket square,** £7, moss.co.uk. **Leather shoes,** £495, jimmychoo.com **BAND: Suits,** £65 each, and **shoes,** £20, to hire, moss.co.uk. **Cotton shirts,** £120, etonshirts.com



BRIDE: Silk dress with embellished ribbon belt, £3,995, amandawakeley.com. **0.77ct diamond ring,** from £2,499, Tolkowsky at ernestjones.co.uk. **Crystal earrings,** £20, Mikey at hsamuel.co.uk. **Sterling-silver and cubic zirconia bracelet,** £129, hsamuel.co.uk **BAND: Suits; shirts** and **shoes,** as before



BRIDE: Hand-beaded lace dress, £7,270, Inbal Dror at morgandavieslondon.co.uk. **Diamond, aquamarine and rose-gold earrings,** £2,280, sophiebreitmeyer.com. **Diamond ring,** £2,790, Bee Goddess at harrods.com **GROOM: Hopsack suit,** from £1,190; **cotton shirt,** £89, and **satin bowtie,** £39, marcwallace.com. **BAND: Suits; shirts** and **shoes,** as before →





BRIDE: Floral lace dress, £4,100, rolandmouret.com. **Earrings,** £30, finchittida finch.com. **Bouquet** (Vanda orchids, hydrangeas and Avalanche roses), £85, jamieaston.com **GROOM: Velvet jacket,** £450, and **shirt,** £115, hackett.co.uk. **Silk bowtie,** £18, moss.co.uk. **Pocket square,** as before

(Opposite) **BRIDE: Embroidered crêpe dress,** from £3,180, Reem Acra at brownsfashion.com/bride. **Tulle veil,** £73.50, richard-designs.com. **Gold-plated quartz ring,** £118, zoeand morgan.com. **Gold-dipped earrings with pearls,** £125, Rosantica at net-a-porter.com **GROOM: Suit,** £1,030; **cotton shirt,** £140, and **silk tie,** £79, paulsmith.co.uk. **Felt hat,** £165, bates-hats.com. **Shoes; microphone** and **cable,** as before **BAND: Suits; shirts** and **shoes,** as before →

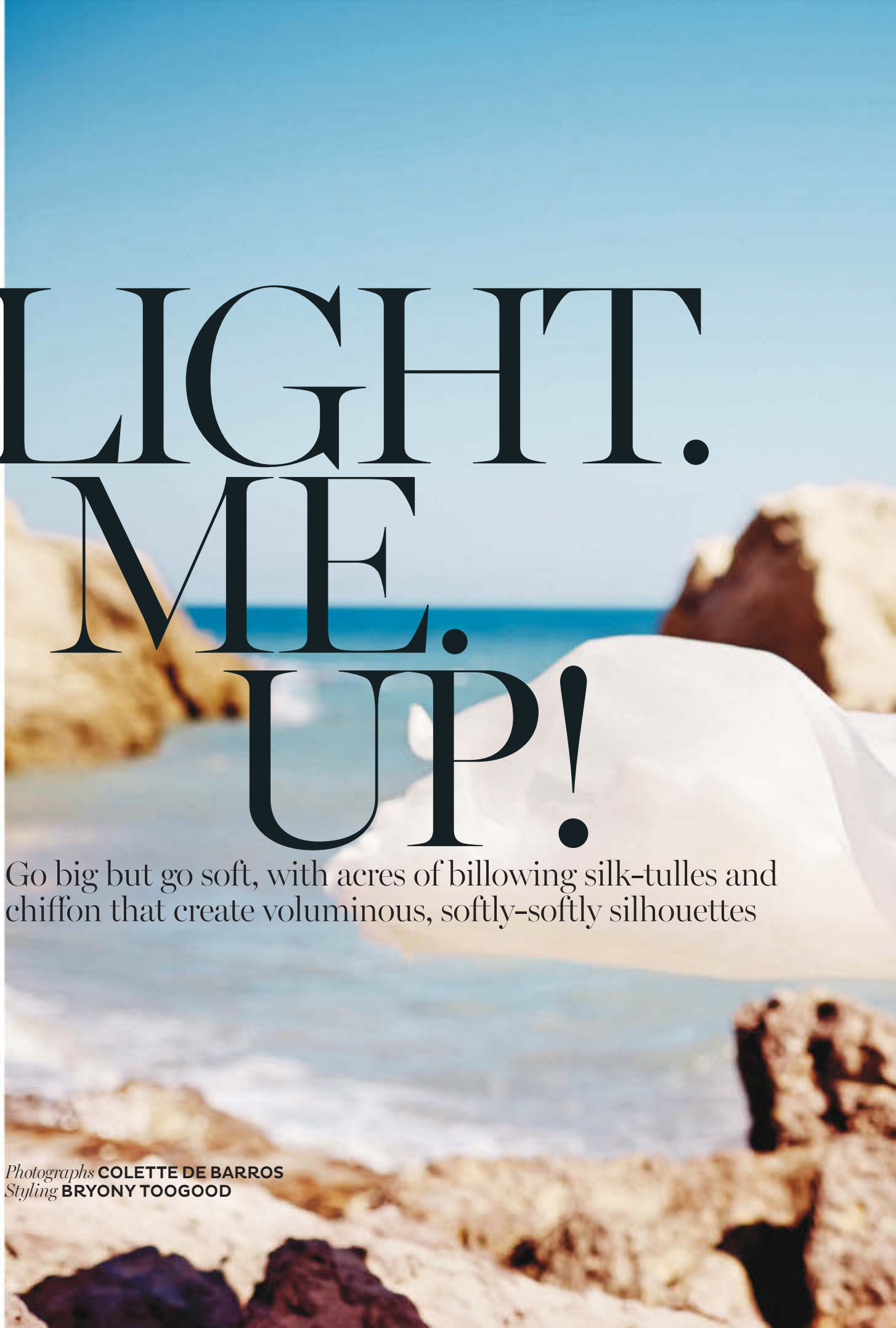


BRIDE: Tuxedo jacket, £820; **trousers,** £630, and **lace body,** £400, Sophia Kokosalaki at net-a-porter.com. **Gold vermeil and rose quartz ring,** £270, assyalondon.com. **Swarovski-crystal and gold-plated earrings,** £386, vickisarge.com **BAND: Suits; shirts** and **shoes,** as before



BRIDE: Embroidered chiffon dress, £4,463, carolinaherrera.com. **Crystal earrings,** £249, dannijo.com. **Crystal and platinum-plated bracelet,** £119, atelierswarovski.com. **Bouquet** (tulips, cyclamen, hebe foliage and Narcissus 'Paper White'), from £95, jane-packer.co.uk **GROOM: Wool suit,** £660; **cotton shirt,** £90, and **silk pocket square,** £25, favourbrook.com. **Shoes,** £300, paulsmith.co.uk **BAND: Suits; shirts** and **shoes,** as before

Hair: Piero at MW Management. **Make-up:** Sophie Higginson at Frank Agency using Dolce & Gabbana skincare and Perfect Reveal Lift Foundation. **Models:** Mariana at Premier Model Management and Dejan at Neus. **Fashion assistant:** Lucinda Turner. **Photographer's assistants:** Pablo Marks and Andy Donohoe. **With special thanks to** The London Essentials (thelondonessentials.com). For information on the band, go to bridesmagazine.co.uk/entertainment



LIGHT. ME. UP!

Go big but go soft, with acres of billowing silk-tulles and chiffon that create voluminous, softly-softly silhouettes

Photographs **COLETTE DE BARROS**
Styling **BRYONY TOOGOOD**



Silk dress, £2,615, gemymaalouf.com.
Gold pavé earrings, from £470, carriehoffmanjewelry.com →





Soft tulle dress, POA, verawang.com. **Long shell necklace,** £195, and **short shell necklace,** £165, pebblelondon.com. **Gold pavé earrings,** as before
Opposite: **Silk-chiffon dress,** from £4,460, romonakeveza.com. **Large mother-of-pearl and shell bracelet,** £55, pebblelondon.com. **Gold pavé earrings**, as before →





Silk-gazar dress with hand-burnt and painted paillette flowers, from £2,825, houghtonnyc.com. **PVC and satin heels,** from £750, charlotteolympia.com. **Satin ribbon** (worn around ankles), £5.45 for five metres, johnlewis.com. **Gold pavé earrings,** as before
Opposite: **Lace dress with chiffon panels,** from £1,100, Romantique by Claire Pettibone at clairepettibone.com. **Leather sandals,** £725, gina.com. **Gold pavé earrings,** as before →



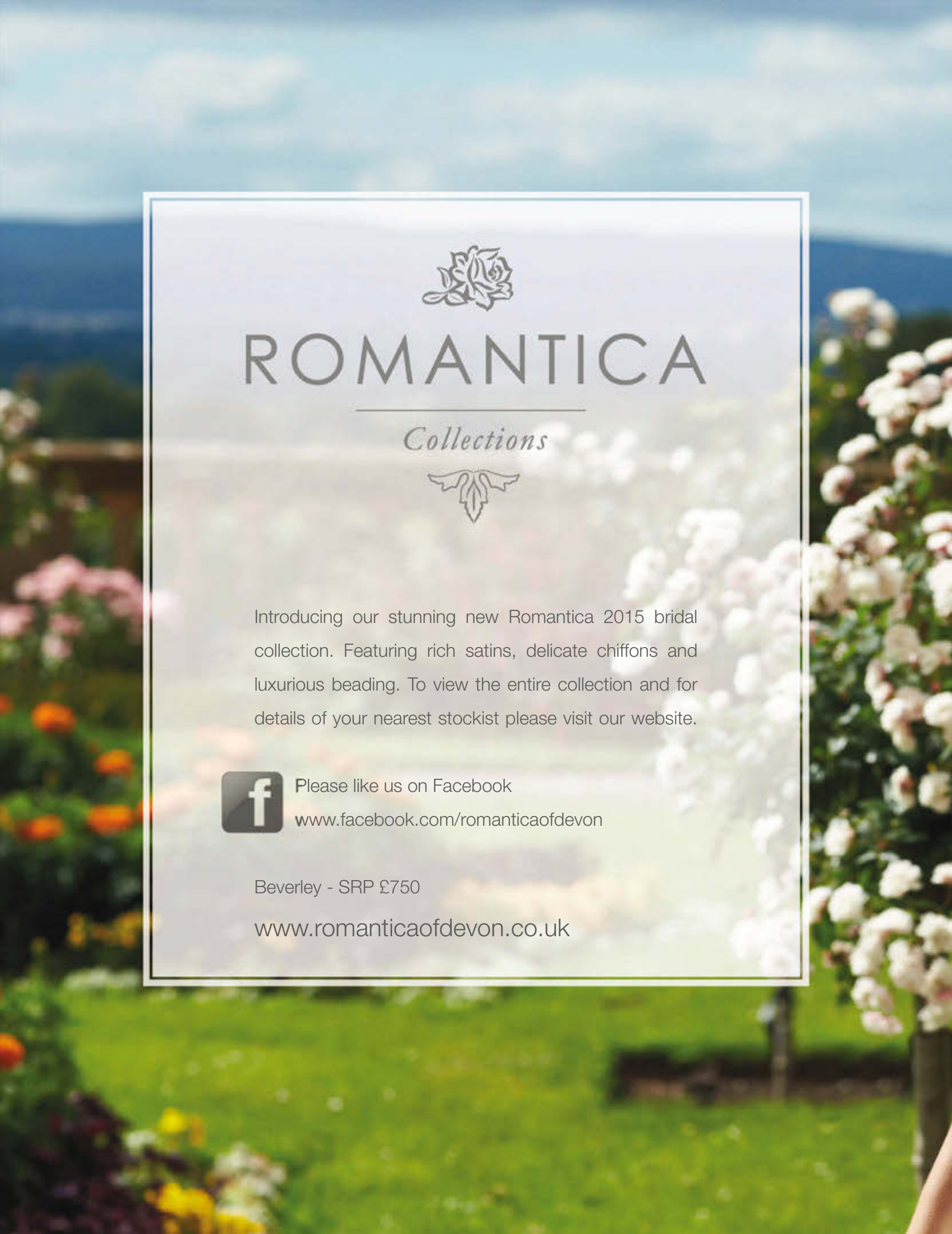
Embroidered and beaded dress with net cape, £4,400, reemjuan.com. **Gold pavé earrings,** as before
Opposite: **Sheer tulle and Chantilly-lace blouse,** from £1,100, and **silk skirt,** from £1,600, yolancris.com. **Gold pavé earrings,** as before

Hair: Kristin Heitkotter at traceymattingly.com using Orlando Pita Lift & Plump Volumizing Spray Mist, Oribe Dry Texturizing Spray, and Kérastase Laque Dentelle. **Make-up:** Lauren Lancaster at Celestine using Nars Pro Prime, Kalahari eyeshadow and Laguna bronzer. **Model:** Atong Arjok at Wilhelmina Models. **Location:** Leo Carrillo Beach in LA




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London LOVE

From dream dresses, to fabulous florals, gather all the inspiration you need to plan the wedding of your dreams at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel this March.

AN ICONIC LONDON WEDDING VENUE



UNDISPUTEDLY ONE OF THE CAPITAL'S MOST ICONIC WEDDING VENUES, resplendent with gold-leaf ceilings and a Grand Staircase, St Pancras Renaissance Hotel is one of London's most romantic establishments. Join us in the The Gallery and Ladies Smoking Room for an evening of luxury wedding inspiration bringing together some of the top names in the business. After a Veuve Clicquot champagne and canapé reception, you'll be able to mingle with the hotel's wedding managers and start planning your special day. Everyone from luxury stationery purveyors to swoon-worthy floral experts will be under one roof – in the stylish surroundings of London's smartest address.







The perfect venue

As well as picking up some invaluable wedding advice, you'll be able to explore all the nooks and crannies of this remarkable hotel as a potential venue for your big day. Behind the fairytale façade, created by famed architect Sir George Gilbert Scott, lies a five-star haven like no other – one that blends Victorian splendour with today's contemporary style and slick service. Within its walls, there are plenty of options for a chic city celebration, but our favourite has to be the breathtaking Ladies Smoking Room with a stunning private terrace; a truly romantic setting for your first dance. Whichever room you fall in love with, no matter how large or small, rest assured you can pose in front of the hotel's famous Grand Staircase – a magnificent backdrop for wedding photographs if ever we've seen one.

Your exclusive invitation

On the night, an array of exquisite bridal gowns will be available to view, courtesy of top bridal boutique Mirror Mirror. Models will be showcasing the wares of the world's best designers including Atelier by Pronovias, Cymbeline, Naomi Neoh, Gemy, Yolancris, Raimon Bundo, Alan Hannah and Mirror Mirror Couture.

All the beautiful details

While the champagne flows and the canapés are circulated, you can admire creations from the talented florists Lavender Green, test the weight of the paper from top-notch stationers Eagle Eyed Bride and sample magical cakes from The Abigail Bloom Cake Company.

Fashion forward

Alongside Mirror Mirror, Emmy London will be presenting gorgeous embellished bridal shoes and bespoke bridesmaid brand Maids to Measure will have a range of dresses in all shapes, shades and silhouettes on display. Plus, big day beauty tips and mini makeovers by hair stylists Michael Van Clarke and make-up experts Bobbi Brown will conclude what is sure to be a fabulous evening.

For more details on this iconic venue: visit stpancraslondonweddings.co.uk



Dress by Mirror Mirror Couture; Photographer Mark Bothwell

ON THE NIGHT

You're invited to an exclusive wedding showcase at London's St Pancras Renaissance Hotel. The hotel's wedding planners will be on hand to help with all aspects of your special day, not to mention dress designers, florists, make-up experts and much more on show - you're bound to be inspired. Book now!

NEED TO KNOW

WHEN:

Thursday 26 March

6-9pm

WHERE:

St Pancras Renaissance Hotel, Euston Road, NW1

TICKETS:

Free but limited and all allocated on a first come first served basis.

RSVP:

Email bridesretaileditor@condenast.co.uk




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ROMANTICA
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BRIDES DIRECTORY 2015

A guide to the best bridal dress and accessory designers. Pick your location - and go shopping!

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The Dress features a stunning collection of gowns and accessories by leading British designers including Sabina Motasem, Sassi Holford, Suzanne Neville, Augusta Jones and Lyn Ashworth.

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Le Chic specialises in outfits for the Mother of the Bride or Groom and special occasions with one of the largest selections in London and the South East.

Major stockists of Condici, Linea Raffaelli, John Charles, Ispirato , Ann Balon, Veni Infantino, Zeila and new to 2015, Irresistible!

Le Chic provides a friendly and highly experienced service and with over 2,000 outfits and matching accessories in stock from sizes 8-26, a visit is a must. Located only 20 minutes from London Victoria and Blackfriars stations.



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ilovegorgeous design beautiful, vintage-inspired dresses and pretty accessories for girls aged 0-13 years. Knowledgeable staff are on hand to give styling advice and help complete the look.

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Established for over 14 years, The Wedding Club is one of the most exclusive bridal boutiques and is famed for bringing the most fashion-forward collections to the UK.

Ines Di Santo Trunk Show: 14-15 February 2015

Elizabeth Stuart Trunk Show: 21-22 February 2015

Rembo Styling Trunk Show: 28 February - 1 March 2015

Naeem Khan Trunk Show: 25-26 April 2015

Stockists of:

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Chose a cleaner, more modern silhouette for 2015.

Take a look at Louise's new "sixties" inspired dresses for an up-to-date take on an inspiring decade. A light-as-gossamer zibeline sheath dress, with a slash neck and grosgrain bow detail, is so Jean Shrimpton, accessorised with a ribbon edged, silk tulle veil.

The result is understated chic. The effect is utterly stunning.

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The White Room is an exclusive bridal boutique in the beautiful Cotswold town of Minchinhampton.

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At Sarah's Wedding Boutique you will find exquisite bridal gowns, bridesmaid dresses and accessories for your special day. We have a passion to help brides fulfil their dreams and will gladly offer advice and guidance in preparation for your big day in our friendly boutique. Situated in the beautiful market town of Nantwich, our selective range of bridal designers include San Patrick by Pronovias, Loulou, Diane Harbridge and Ellis.
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Mia Bridal in Carlisle, established in 2001 by fashion graduate Sarah Kelly, prides itself on a personal and friendly service.

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Photography by James Jebson

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Agapé Bridal Boutique is a luxury bridal haven run by a team of talented designers and seamstresses.

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Rachel Ash Bridalwear is a luxury bridal boutique nestled in the historic town of Atherstone, North Warwickshire.

We have a beautiful collection of gowns from leading designers, Stephanie Allin, Pronovias, Lusan Mandongus, Watters Brides, Catherine Deane and accessories from Corrine Smith Design, Rachel Simpson Shoes and Kelly Spence.

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Wedding Belles is one of the Midlands' finest bridal boutiques offering brides a stunning range of gowns from top designers including:

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The Bridal Boutique Warwickshire, located in the picturesque Warwickshire town of Henley-in-Arden, put the bride at the heart of everything we do.

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WARWICKSHIRE B49 5DP
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TIME IS SO PRECIOUS, SMART COUPLES STEAL IT.

On the beautiful island of Saint Lucia there's a place that's perfect for celebration. Known as *Rendezvous,* its verdant gardens set on a two mile stretch of white sand beach were the inspiration that created this relaxing and intimate hideaway dedicated to the couple.

In today's modern world, couples find it hard to spend quality time with each other. *Rendezvous* provides a perfect setting to reconnect and rediscover life's pleasures together. This intimate resort provides the chance to steal time, to relax, have fun and share delicious food, fine wines, activities, spa treatments and of course, first class service. Whatever the two of you imagine yourselves doing, at *Rendezvous* it can come true, including an unforgettable wedding day in the sun.



To create a perfect day as unique as you are, the imaginative *Ever After Collection* is designed to inspire ideas to fit your vision. Imagine a sandy beach on a deserted island, or a candle lit 18th Century ruin, or perhaps even a setting inspired by an Exotic Oasis. On our website, you can custom build your perfect day from a palette of choices designed to create your wedding, your way. To learn more about the *Ever After Collection,* call 0203 096 1651 or visit www.theromanticholiday.com/everafter

Rendezvous

The Boutique Hotel for Couples

Travel

ONE-WAY TICKET TO BLISS



India House *Near Cape Town, South Africa*

Step through the turquoise door of this stunning cottage, nestled in the Bainskloof Valley, a 90-minute drive from buzzing Cape Town, and you'll be ready to go tech cold turkey. The two main bedrooms are decorated in luscious whites and antique furniture, while the stylish bathrooms have rainforest showers, cast-iron baths and (no need for electricity) candleholders built into the walls. We. Love.

NO SIGNAL, NO PROBLEM! You're in prime vineyard country – so why not treat yourself to a wine-tasting tour (or several).

- A one-night stay costs from £213; perfecthideaways.co.za

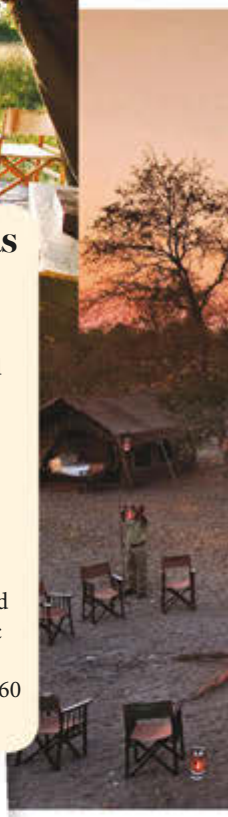


Chobe Under Canvas *Botswana, Africa*

This is sexy seclusion at its very best. Picture the Big Five keeping you company during the day and the stars watching over you at night. It may be a mobile tented camp (it moves every four days), but there are indulgent touches (think full butler service) and eye-popping panoramas of the game-rich Chobe National Park.

NO SIGNAL, NO PROBLEM! Head out on a one-to-one photographic safari with a professional.

- A one-night stay costs from £260 per person; andbeyond.com



LOOK *no wifi!** (*Or phones, iPads...)

Unplug and unwind with a low-tech, high-luxe honeymoon hotspot. Zero signal required

Petit St Vincent *Caribbean*

Forget dialling a phone, expect no TVs and revel in zilch wifi on this 122-acre patch of paradise. You'll stay in a swish cabin (choose one located high on the bluffs for the best sea view), where the only way to communicate to staff is by raising a flag. Very Crusoe.

NO SIGNAL, NO PROBLEM! Give your inner Zen some love with a yoga class overlooking Conch Bay.

- Caribtours (caribtours.co.uk) offers seven nights in a One Bedroom Cottage from £3,226 per person, all-inclusive. Includes return flights



North Beach Barbuda *Caribbean*

There are three simple rules here: 'No iPhone, no internet and no interruptions'. In fact, chilling is the *only* thing to do – there's no spa or pool, just 12 miles of deserted beach. So, the only sound you're likely to hear is someone asking if you'd like another drink...

NO SIGNAL, NO PROBLEM! If fly and flop guilt sets in, take a boat ride to South Barbuda and its pristine Princess Diana Beach.

- A night costs from £130 per person; barbudanorthbeach.com



HOW ABOUT A DIGITAL DETOX IN THE UK?

Big Sky Retreat *Devon*

Well, hello there wooden yurt made for two! Swap signal for scenery at this middle-of-nowhere retreat. Take a nap on the Scandi-style super-comfortable bed before settling down on the couch to take in those awesome 180-degree views.

NO SIGNAL, NO PROBLEM! Discover the ornamental gardens, then skip through the bluebells in the nearby ancient forest.

- A wooden yurt costs from £105; canopyandstars.co.uk

WORDS: HARRIET CHUBB AND EMMA BYRNE


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The BRIT *awards!*

WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE ABOUT THE UK? WHETHER YOU'RE HEN DO-ING, HONEYMOONING OR JUST UP FOR SOME *SERIOUS* PAMPERING, THESE ARE THE HOTELS TO CHECK INTO *NOW*

Best for...
A (royal) home from home

After your princess bride moment at Blenheim Palace, book into Lyne House in Oxfordshire for a low-key, welcoming stay



A MERE EIGHT-MINUTE DRIVE FROM ONE OF THE UK'S MOST STUNNING WEDDING VENUES, Blenheim Palace, is Lyne House, a 17th-century Cotswoldian jewel in the village of Kidlington. With four double rooms, this hideaway provides the perfect pre big-day accommodation for you and your bridesmaids, or the ultimate romantic first-night hideout with your new husband. The spacious Fran Room is ideal for a honeymoon staycation, with a super-king-size bed that you'll want to take a frenzied leap at the moment you see it.

Far from the clinical confines of modern hospitality, Lyne House's rustic comfort, timber panelling and heavenly furnishings – that not even Kidlington's old pubs can lure you away from – demand that you switch off. If you are all about the little touches, the his'n'hers dressing gowns and slippers are a sweet addition. Sweeter still are the property's charming hosts, Marilyn and Meredith Goodwin, who will always go that extra mile (quite literally to the airport if necessary), to make each and every guest's stay one to remember.

Champagne and canapés to fill those afternoon hours? Advice on the best places to explore in the village? A fresh continental breakfast served a bit later than usual? Not a problem for this pair of wonder hosts.

● *The Fran Room costs from £180; lynehouse.co.uk* →





Best for...
Seclusion on the south coast

There's no better romantic escape than The George In Rye

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A CHARMING COASTAL HAVEN, then this could be it. Yes, this hotel is steeped in history (it dates back to 1575 no less and is Rye's oldest coaching inn), but it's pretty cool, too. Alongside the piles of antiques, you'll find some stylish touches to its 34 individually designed bedrooms that add a fresh angle to the hotel's long history. The Luxury Rooms are among the most contemporary, and cater best to 2015-style demands (think Frette Italian linen, REN products and flatscreen TVs, phew!). After a peaceful walk along the white beach of Camber Sands – less than a 10-minute drive away – enjoy a scrumptious supper at The George Grill, with a glass of wine from the vineyards of East Sussex. The staff here are attentive and create a relaxed atmosphere that will warm you even more than the blazing fire in the Tap Bar. And if an intimate nightcap beneath the stars sounds divine, then bag a room with a private courtyard.

● *A Luxury Room costs from £195, B&B; thegeorgeinrye.com*





Best for...
The ultimate Kate Factor

Middleton or Moss, either way you're guaranteed a memorable five-star experience at Claridge's

IT'S A TRULY RARE BREED OF LUXURY HOTEL that can successfully combine old-world glamour with a touch of rock'n'roll, but Claridge's – a firm favourite with royalty and rock stars alike – achieves it. Located in the heart of London's Mayfair, this distinguished beauty is *the* place for an indulgent break. Check into one of the gorgeous, newly decorated Linley Suites, with their soft powdery pastels, piped leather, inlaid furniture and vintage touches. The bathrooms are filled with fresh flowers and Bamford Organic products, while being waited on by your own butler is all part of the package. Book a window seat by the meadow, the mini garden designed by Tom Stuart-Smith, at the Michelin-starred Fera restaurant, where chef Simon Rogan offers an organic menu. Sample the hake and caramelised cabbage with edible flowers, washed down with a bee pollen soda and whisky. Then there's the hotel's bar The Fumoir, which serves its delicious cocktails in Lalique glasses (warning: you won't be able to stop at one).

● *A double room costs from £425; claridges.co.uk*



Best for...
A fast-track retreat

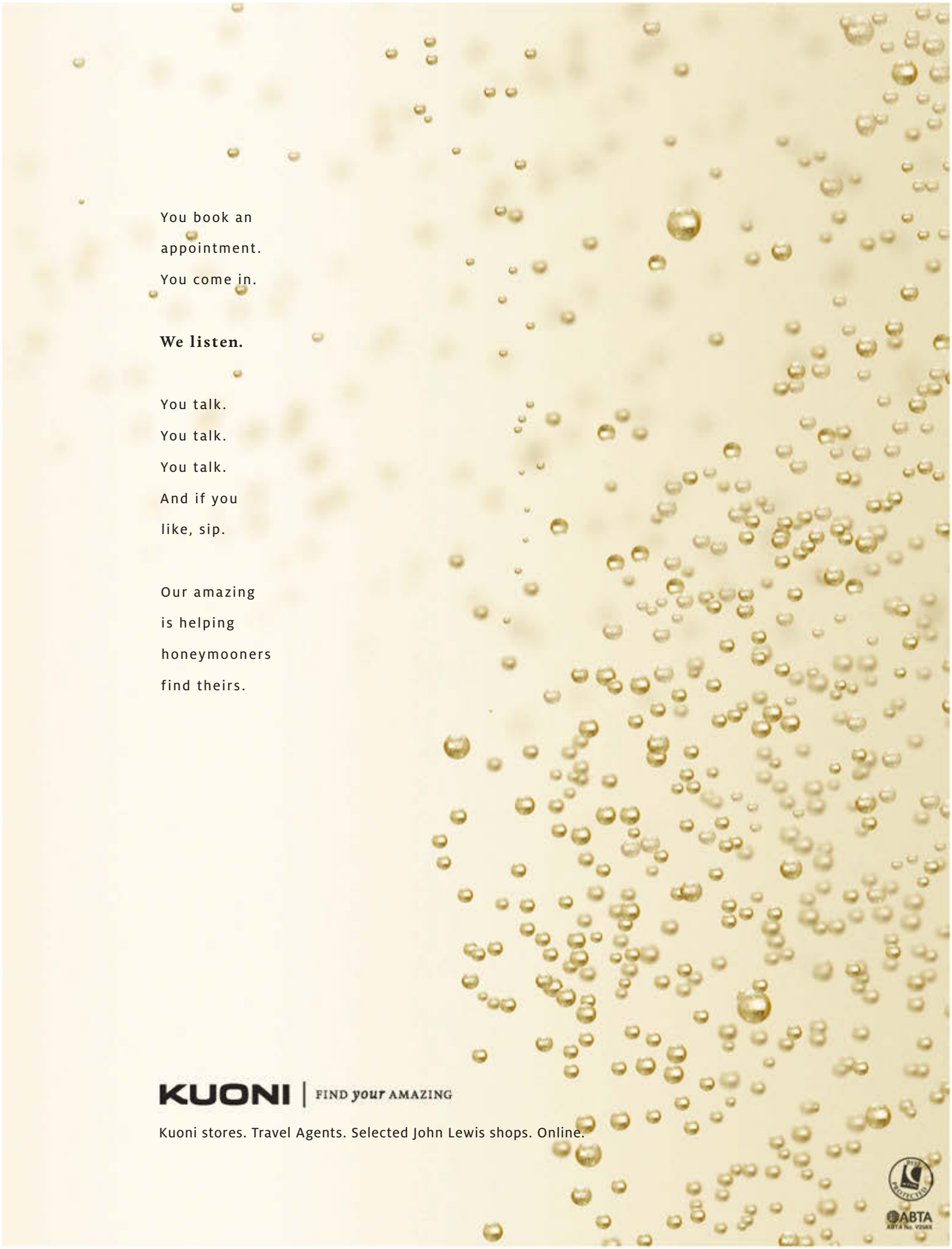
Just a short journey from the big smoke and you're at The Grove in rural Hertfordshire

HOP ON TO A TRAIN AT EUSTON RAIL STATION AND 30 MINUTES LATER YOU WILL ARRIVE AT THIS THOROUGHBRED LUXURY SPA HOTEL. Couples looking for opulence should book into The Mansion. A warren of winding corridors cocooned in velvet, it has 26 luxury suites and three different interior styles to choose from – let the hedonism begin! The breathtaking room service starts with bubbly on arrival, roses with a candlelit bath and chocolates. For seriously loved-up couples, the hotel can recommend some idyllic spots on its 300-acre estate for an impromptu picnic. Afterwards, unwind at Sequoia, The Grove's spa, which offers guests an abundance of treatments such as the Energy Balancing Massage, which will melt away any of that pre-wedding tension. Is there anything this hotel has left out – imperfection possibly?

● *A Mansion Room costs from £450; thegrove.co.uk* →



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appointment.
You come in.

We listen.

You talk.
You talk.
You talk.
And if you
like, sip.

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is helping
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Best for...
A 360° bridal destination

Buy your gown, make your gift list, then host your hen do at Broadway Barn, in Ripley, Surrey

IF YOUR BRIDAL COMPASS LEADS YOU TO SURREY, MAKE SURE THE PRETTY VILLAGE OF RIPLEY IS ON YOUR 'MUST VISIT' LIST. A single day won't suffice when exploring this bridal haven, so book a room at The Broadway Barn – or better still, gather all your girls together and check into the adjoining Broadway Cottage. Crammed full of an eclectic furniture mix that the owners have cleverly sourced from all over the world, the two-floor period cottage has everything that you'll need for a sleepover. Spend the day trying on Jenny Packham, Suzanne Neville and Tara Keely gowns at Miss Bush Bridalwear at The Old Chapel before popping to Nest to compile your bespoke gift list. Decide from the store's collection of Juliska ceramics and glassware, handmade elaborate chandeliers, vintage-inspired chests and pewter frames. Then hydrate with a glass of fine wine at one of Ripley's oldest (and poshest!) pubs, The Anchor. On your way back home to the cottage, stop to book a table for dinner at the Michelin-starred Drake's where the pork belly is the stuff of legend. And, after what is bound to be a blissful night's sleep, take advantage of the cottage's private courtyard garden for more wedding planning over breakfast. We guarantee it'll be a weekend to remember.

● *A double room costs from £99, B&B, while self-catering units start at £120; broadwaybarn.com*

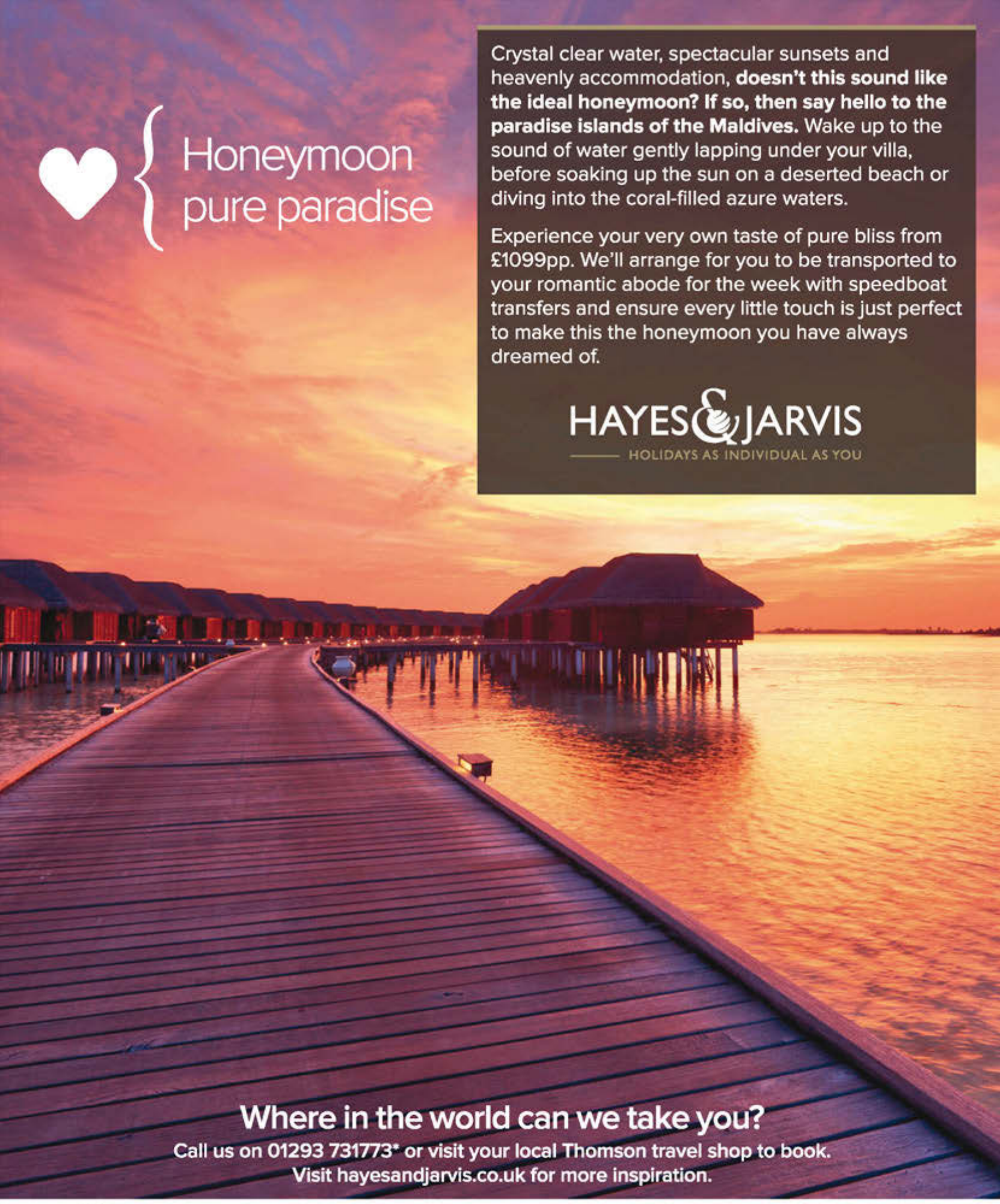


Best for...
(Food) lovers everywhere

Eat, love... then eat some more at Limewood in Lyndhurst, Hampshire

YOU COME HERE TO BE PAMPERED. AND FED. Very, very well fed. At this grand but groovy country manor there is heaps to do, but hanging out in the lovely Herb House spa, with its roof-top garden takes some beating (it's worth a visit just for the outdoor hydrotherapy pool). When it's time to dine, choose from Michelin-starred Angela Hartnett and Luke Holder's locally sourced delights, all with an Italian twist (like New Forest truffles teamed with buttery homemade pasta), or the Raw And Cured Café with its guilt-free thrills. The bedrooms smack of playful New-England style, with wood-burning fires and free-standing baths. Adventurous guests can borrow a bike and head for The New Forest, winding up at a cosy country pub. There's no question this is one relaxing place to hunker down and fill up.

● *A double room costs from £225; limewoodhotel.co.uk* →



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Download on the App Store



Best for...
Getting fit, the five-star way

Forget sweaty bootcamps and starvation diets. Burn calories in the luxe surroundings of The Four Seasons, Hampshire, instead

WE'VE TRIED, BUT WE JUST CAN'T FIND ANYTHING NOT TO LOVE ABOUT THIS CLASSIC BRITISH HOTEL. The Four Seasons in Hampshire oozes history, country living and unapologetic pampering. Recline in your Georgian-styled bedroom with its lavish country decor and colossal bathroom. Assess your options – from canal boating to serving like a champion on the tennis courts. Hmm, why not hire mountain bikes and explore the local countryside, or check into the Equestrian Centre; horsey novices are always welcome for a one-to-one lesson. Careful though, don't take Dobbin back to the hotel's 18th-century stable block – it's been converted into the most heavenly spa. Enjoy the natural products from world-renowned brands including Sodashi, ESPA and Swiss Perfection. An impressive indoor-outdoor pool beckons, as do the sauna and steam rooms. And for those after an adrenaline fix, The Four Seasons has recently launched its Highwire Adventure, where you can zip line through the trees (just don't look down). Too energetic? Head to Highclere Castle (otherwise known as Downton Abbey) and play Matthew and Mary down the sweeping staircase.

● *A double room costs from £295, B&B; fourseasons.com/hampshire*



Best for...
Wed, party, flop!

Simply choose your wed weekend, then decamp the entire guest list to the Titanic Hotel, Liverpool, for 48 fun-filled hours!

CHECK INTO THE COOLEST NEW OPENING ON LIVERPOOL'S STANLEY DOCK and you could be forgiven for thinking that you were dockside in New York, such is the scale and drama of the industrial setting and buzzy atmosphere. The Titanic Hotel is made up of huge 19th-century warehouses, which once held the city's rum and tobacco imports. Light spills through the original floor-to-ceiling windows and exposed brick walls stay loyal to a raw industrial history, fused with an airy cream and polished interior. Don't rush to check in; take five to absorb the electric atmosphere in the enormous lobby, where the people watching will keep you busy for an hour. This city hotel has covered all corners – the perfect spot for brides-to-be looking to pamper, party and honeymoon. Tick, tick, tick: a dreamy spa, top-notch wedding packages plus 153 bedrooms and suites. Book your mum and your maids in for a pre-wedding girls' spa day at T Spa – featuring *Brides*' very own favourite Jessica manicures. For the big day itself, treat your guests to an awesome barbecue reception on the riverside Colonnade or hire the Rum Warehouse, which holds over 600 people (incase you were planning to invite all your Facebook pals). For a truly luxe experience, book into the Presidential Suite – all 72 whopping square metres of it. Don your fluffy robe, upload some Celine Dion on to your iPod, and relive Kate and Leo's Titanic romance. Happy ending guaranteed!

● *A Superior Dockside Room costs from £129, B&B, while the Presidential Suite starts at £384; titanichotelliverpool.com* B





WORDS: JADE BEER, NICOLA DOWN, BRYONY TOOGOOD, CLAUDIA WATERSON, ROSALYN WIKELEY. PHOTOGRAPHS: CHRIS CRAYMER/TRUNK ARCHIVE, DAVID TITLOW, PAMELA HANSON, DAVID BURTON/TRUNK ARCHIVE, JESSICA CRAIG-MARTIN/TRUNK ARCHIVE

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Malta Magic

FOR A WEDDING ABROAD WITH A DIFFERENCE, IT HAS TO BE MALTA AND GOZO. WE HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE EXPERTS READY TO TAKE ON YOUR BIG DAY AWAY...



WITH BREATHTAKING LANDSCAPES, lush scenery and pristine beaches, Malta is *the* choice for couples 'in the know' looking for a dream wedding destination abroad. With a wonderful climate and a plethora of charming venues to choose from (not to mention it's only a direct, 3 hour flight away from the UK) - it ticks all the boxes. But don't forget the lesser-known island of Gozo, Malta's gorgeous little sister just a short boat ride away. Gozo is the second-largest island in the archipelago and is loved for its hillside settings, tranquil vibes and romantic locations. You won't fail to find a perfect spot for your wedding.

Feel at a loss as to where to start? Don't worry, help is at hand with expert wedding planner Sarah Young. A Malta specialist, Sarah has been planning weddings overseas for nearly 15 years (her and her talented team have organised more than 700 weddings to date!) and is ready and waiting to answer all of your burning questions. From working out how far your budget will stretch to booking that dream venue and securing a dazzling reception with all the trimmings, we guarantee you will be well looked after. If you book before April 2015, Sarah will even throw in a free one night stay at a luxury five star hotel on the night of your wedding.

VENUE SPOTLIGHT

And when it comes to venues, Db Catering & Events can recommend some truly special spots for your big day. How about your ceremony in a wedding gazebo at Db Seabank Resort & Spa? Located on the north side of the island just a stone's throw from the coast, you'll be wowed by its amazing views and beautiful sleek and chic design (think fresh whites and bold blues) and it can even cater for up to 400 guests. Wedding packages start from only 1000 Euros and include a whole host of treats (not to mention it's all-inclusive, hurrah!) with flowers, the cake, centrepieces and menus all taken care of. Want to find out more? Hotfoot it to the National Wedding Show and visit the Malta stand (number C24), where you'll find plenty of expert people on hand to help. Stop dreaming and start booking your perfect day abroad.





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BOOK NOW! For wedding planning: weddingplannermalta.com. For venues: dbhotelsresorts.com. For more information on Malta: visitmalta.com. Don't forget to visit Malta at the National Wedding Show at London's Olympia, 20th-22nd Feburary 2015. Talk to the experts at STAND C24!



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Take a dip in your own private pool at Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay



Enjoy a lazy stroll on Jimbaran Bay's sensational beach



Competition





Soak up those jungle views from a sun lounger at Four Seasons Resort Bali at Sayan



Your super-chic one-bedroom villa



Savour the traditional Balinese architecture with modern touches

LOOKING FOR A DOUBLE HIT OF SUN, SEA AND CULTURE ON HONEYMOON? THEN THIS IS THE PRIZE FOR YOU. We've lined up not one, but two Four Seasons resorts on the enchanting island of Bali. You'll be staying for three nights at the magical Four Seasons Resort Bali at Sayan and four nights at the Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay, on one of the loveliest stretches of beach that Indonesia has to offer.

Your first stop at this luxury resort, hidden in a tropical paradise deep in the highlands, will be crammed full of discovery. Located minutes from the heart of Bali's spiritual and cultural capital, Ubud, be prepared to get involved in the artistic island vibes (think Hindu temples, boho markets and plenty of yoga) before checking in at the spa back at the resort for the mind-melting couple's massage included in your prize. Ask for your treatment in one of the three private spa villas for total seclusion.

A transfer will then whizz you both off to the coast, to the sparkling Jimbaran Bay. Traditional yet seriously romantic, it has all the qualities you would expect from a Four Seasons resort. The thatched-roof, one-bedroom villa you'll be staying in has authentic Balinese touches; rattan armchairs and local vases filled with tropical flowers, but with all-important luxuries – hello, huge soaking tub and slick Bose entertainment system!

After a day spent lolling by the ocean-front infinity pool, ordering cocktails from the Pool Terrace Café, tuck into a gourmet meal for two in your private gazebo by the beach as part of your prize. And finally, get your spiritual groove on with a Karmic Cleansing Ritual at the Island Gazebo. This unique treatment combines ancient therapies and sacred rituals. While listening to the sound of a Balinese gong, you'll experience a local soothing massage and be guided through gentle, relaxing yoga poses and breathing techniques to purify and energise your mind, body and soul. This is post-wedding downtime at its best.

■ *For more information, visit fourseasons.com/bali. Flights provided by Garuda Indonesia (garuda-indonesia.com)*

Garuda Indonesia

To enter, and for the full terms and conditions, visit bridesmagazine.co.uk and answer the three simple questions. The closing date is 26 March 2015

The get it guide

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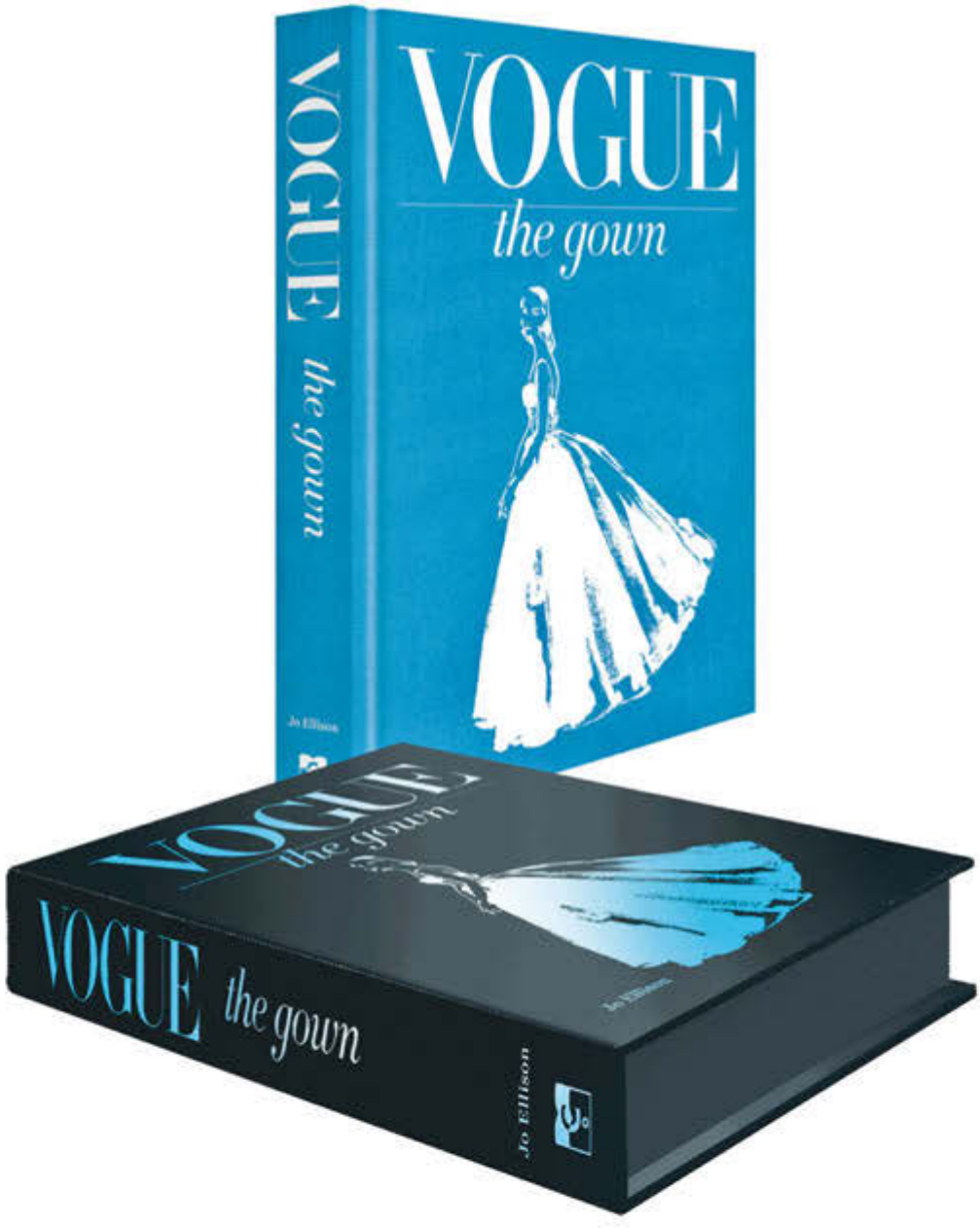
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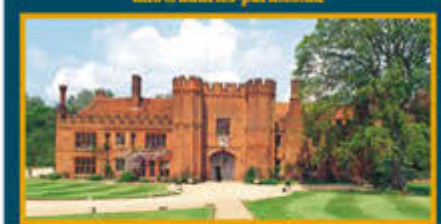
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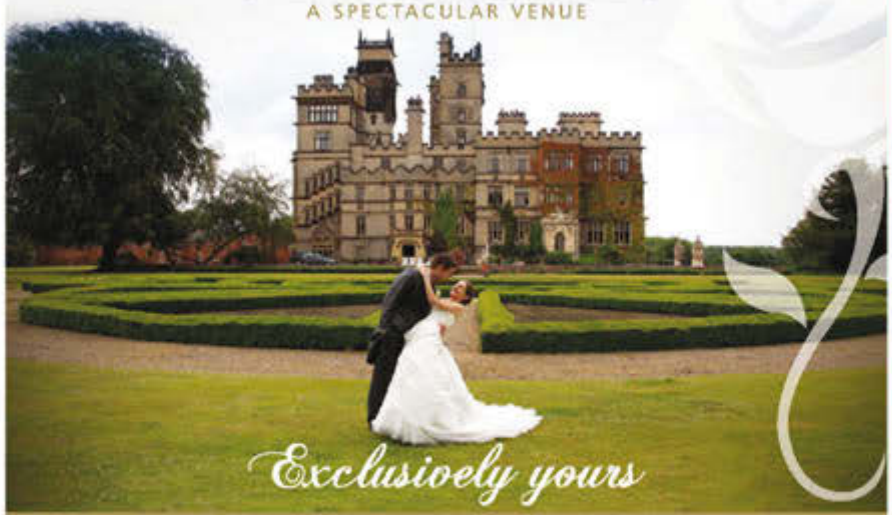
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5. With an eye for capturing those special moments, **ALEX WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY** will make your beautiful day complete. Working with enthusiasm and honesty Alex creates memories for you to treasure for years to come. Visit www.alexweddingphotography.co.uk or call 07951 235911.

6. Young and creative, **JACOB AND PAULINE PHOTOGRAPHY** are influenced by their background in fashion photography to specialise in storytelling pictures with a touch of film photography. Experienced in UK weddings and destination photography, their portfolio includes a royal wedding in Qatar. Visit www.jacobandpauline.co.uk or call 07411 603 445.

7. PICTURES OF YOU WEDDING & PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY will be your eyes throughout your Wedding day, recording every detail and emotion for you to treasure forever! Whether it's in scenic rural North Dorset, along the beautiful Jurassic Dorset Coast or in the tranquility of The New Forest, Katrina's passion for her photography shines through each wedding. One of the key attributes to being a great wedding photographer is making the Bride and Groom feel comfortable and relaxed – something Katrina achieves naturally! Visit www.pictures-of-you.co.uk or email katrina@pictures-of-you.co.uk or call 01258 861624.

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Springtime Sparkle... Dazzling Designs!





1. FREDERICK B showcase their unique and exclusive 'intimate' diamond engagement ring setting. Mirror polished platinum 'intimately' couples together the exquisite white diamonds nestling beneath a stunning white princess cut diamond. Matching wedding rings and various diamond options are available. For more information, contact 020 3544 3688 or visit www.frederickb.com

2. THE WATCH AGENCY specialise in buying and selling new, ex display and pre owned watches by the world's leading watchmakers, including Rolex, Cartier, Patek Philippe, and Jaeger Le Coultre. All jewellery also available at large discounts. Pictured Lady's 18ct Gold Rolex Datejust on President Bracelet with Diamond set Bezel Dial, Lugs and Bracelet. New £38,200. As New £9,995. With prices starting from under half of retail ensure that you speak to one of their watch and jewellery experts to get the best for less. Call 01702 395100 or visit www.watchagency.co.uk







3. BISH BOSH BECCA. From vintage to contemporary designs, they are sure you will find the perfect finishing touch for you and your bridesmaids at www.bishboshbecca.co.uk

4. KERATIA offers the ultimate replica diamond jewellery in 18 carat gold, focussing on engagement rings and mother-of-the-bride jewellery. From £350. Absolutely no one can see the difference! Visit www.keratia.com or call 07974 260360.



5. DIAMOND ROCKS has a stunning range of engagement rings, diamond jewellery and designer jewellery with over 1,500 items in stock and big savings compared to the high street! You can design your own ring on the website by selecting from thousands of certified diamonds. Buy online at www.diamondrocks.co.uk Visit them in Hatton Garden (strictly by appointment only) or call 0800 977 4855. BRIDES Readers Offer – Enter code "BRIDESROCKS" 5% off for BRIDES Readers. (Expires 31st March 2015).



6. MERCI MAMAN offers a beautiful range of personalised gifts. Jewellery can be engraved by hand with names, dates and messages of your choice, making it the perfect wedding memento for you and your bridal party. Featured is their personalised Gold Plated Heart Charm Bracelet. (From £30). For more information, visit www.mercimamanboutique.com or call 020 7731 1377.



7. JOSEF KOPPMANN offers a timeless collection of contemporary engagement and wedding rings in platinum and gold available from his London gallery at 1.22 OXO Tower Wharf, SE1 9PH. Call 020 7928 6252 or visit www.josefkoppmann.com



8. Affirm your engagement in diamonds and intricate detailing with the **O'LA VI** Infinity Ring. Delicately handcrafted, these Interlocking rings of 18k white gold celebrate the unity of two hearts. Visit www.olavijewelry.us or call 001 877 536 7709.

9. Based at the heart of London's diamond district, Hatton Garden, **UNIVERSAL IMPORTS LTD.** will inspire you with their expertise, spectacular designs, and above all, their diamonds' excellence. Made in their on-site workshop, your piece will be crafted with care and precision. Call 020 7242 7120 to make an appointment or browse www.universaldiamonds.co.uk

10. The Three Tier Sunray Necklace is **ARIMAS JEWELRY BOX**'s signature handcrafted jewellery. Featuring beautifully detailed triangles on a three-tier necklace truly add an extraordinary look to any ensemble. The necklace is reversible, one side is textured and the other is smooth. Enter code BRIDES at checkout to receive 10% off your entire purchase and free gift packaging. Offer expires 31/12/15. For more information email ArimasJewelryBox@gmail.com or visit www.ArimasJewelryBox.com

11. The Venus solitaire diamond ring, by **MELINA CLARK**. Simple and elegant– it exudes dainty femininity. Make it personal with a bespoke choice of alternative gems and metals, and matching wedding rings. Visit www.melinaclark.com or Call 07947254462.

12. CORRINE SMITH is an award-winning designer and has been creating accessories for brides for over a decade. Accepting commissions worldwide, her designs can be customised to suit your needs. A bespoke service is also available. Visit corrinesmith.com or call 01563 532561 for more information.




Venus Ring Diamond Solitaire



13. Are you looking for a ring with that timeless elegance typical of early 20th century jewellery? **RICHARD OGDEN** offers an outstanding collection of engagement and wedding rings created by their team of highly experienced craftsmen. If you prefer to design your own ring, they would be delighted to help you find that special diamond or beautiful coloured gemstone, and create the ring of your dreams. Visit www.richardogden.com or call 020 7493 9136.



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14. Founded in 2007, **DEEPA GURNANI** is an innovative accessory brand. Each piece is hand embroidered in India by the finest Artisans, with impeccable attention to detail. Their range of hair accessories, jewels and belts is available in a variety of colours, perfect for brides and bridesmaids too. See more at www.deepagurnani.com or contact; info@deepagurnani.com

15. Diamonds, rose gold and mother of pearl take centre stage on this stunning "Rebecca" watch from **DU MAURIER WATCHES.** This beautiful Swiss made timepiece is the perfect accessory or gift for your day. The Rebecca is a limited edition design of only 300 pieces offering you ultimate exclusivity. Priced at £485. See the full collection at www.dumaurierwatches.com or call on 0845 519 3074.

16. CHISHOLM HUNTER, Diamond Merchants Est. 1857 is an award-winning diamond jewellers with a heritage in gemology and fine craftsmanship spanning over 155 years. This selection from their acclaimed Diamond Collection showcases the range of stunning designs available from £1,395 to £19,995. To view the collection in full with prices from £495, as well as their range of Certificated Diamonds, Wedding Jewellery and Eternity Rings, visit chisholmhunter.co.uk or your nearest UK store, where the Bespoke Jewellery Design Service is available to brides looking for something truly unique for their special day. Call 0844 417 6058 and quote BRIDES to book your design consultation today.

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17. BRILLIANT INC is a luxury fine jewellery boutique in London's Sloane Square, established to fulfil the dreams of diamond lovers with its exclusive collection of ethically grown, non-mined fine diamonds. Their jewellery is expertly cut using the finest materials to ensure maximum brilliance and fire that lasts forever. With prices from £85, handset in either sterling silver or 9K gold, gemologists agree the only way to tell the difference between their stones and traditional mined diamonds is the price tag! 41 Duke of York's, Sloane Square, London SW3 4LY. Call 020 7259 9555 or visit www.brilliantinc.co.uk





18. NATALIE HOLT OF FLUIDITY DESIGN specialises in producing personalised bespoke wedding rings. Natalie uses a variety of unusual textures to produce stunning designs. Wedding rings can be personalised with the fingerprints of the bride and groom. Shaped wedding rings are also available, which complement the design of the engagement ring. Visit www.fluidity-design.co.uk email info@fluidity-design.co.uk or call 07903 457 862 / 01663 762 232.





19. AZENDI. Creating high quality, uniquely designed pieces, Azendi is a luxurious and romantic jewellery brand designed to inspire and delight. Azendi jewellery is contemporary in its innovative design process whilst retaining a timeless beauty in each and every piece. Set in impeccable sparkling formation, these Glittering Promise earrings are breath taking in their brilliance. Designed in Sterling Silver with stunning, sparkling stones, the collection incorporates a variety of beautiful designs. Website and UK stockists: www.azendi.com



SKULTUNA
1607

20. ELEANOR WHICHELLO BRIDAL ACCESSORIES offers beautiful handcrafted wedding accessories. Shown are the Fleur Diamond Pearl Bridal Studs. Eleanor's elegant designs use Swarovski crystals and high lustre freshwater pearls. All diamonds are conflict free. To find your timeless, statement piece visit www.eleanorwhichello.com

21. AMANDA COX's beautifully intricate "Lily" collection incorporates freshwater pearls of various hues to create elegant and timeless pieces for your jewellery collection. Amanda's range reflects current jewellery trends, which includes vintage style retro jewels, referencing nature and also bold statement pieces to transform an outfit. Call her on 01422 842446 or visit www.amandacoxjewellery.co.uk for stockists.









22. "Something new and something blue". Bespoke, beautiful, hand-made pieces all made within the UK. **XANTHE MARINA** likes to encourage a brides own distinctive taste and style and allows for a customers creativity to flourish into a beautiful and unique piece. 118ct White Gold Bow Earrings with Sky Blue Topaz for your Something New and Something Blue £1,800.00. View the collection on www.xanthemarina.com or contact on 07768 263198.

23. SKULTUNA 1607. Established in the year 1607 and purveyors to H.M. The King of Sweden. View the latest collections of cuff links and men's accessories and shop now at www.skultuna.com or call +46 21 783 00.

24. The **BIJOUX HUT** offer a beautiful range of handmade jewellery. From statement necklaces to stylish drop earrings, they offer a variety of colours and styles to suit any outfit or occasion. Visit www.thebijouxhut.co.uk to view their full collection.

25. LIZ TYLER LTD. Award winning designer jeweller Liz Tyler delights in making your dreams a reality. Liz will be exhibiting at "Desire" at Chelsea Town Hall, King's Road, 6th-8th March. Visit www.liztyler.com or contact Liz on 01258 820222.

26. BEADS BROOCHES BRIDAL offers a wide variety of gorgeous wedding accessories. All of their handmade products are created in Los Angeles, California and shipped all over the world. Visit their shop at www.etsy.com/shop/BeadsBroochesBridal or email beadsbroochesbridal@yahoo.com



27. His passion for creating artistic jewellery perfected over the years resulted in **ANASTAZIO JEWELLERY** – a brand that creates extraordinary masterpieces inspired by ancient cultures, nature and love for feminine sexuality. Visit www.anastazio-jewellery.com or email info@anastazio-jewellery.com



28. ROCK AND GEMS is a contemporary fine jewellery line for the modern woman. A celebrity favourite, this collection of delicate yet edgy mix of 14k, gemstones and diamonds celebrate each woman's unique style and beauty. Visit www.rockandgems.us or call 001 310 871 5360.

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Sartorial Selection...

The Fashion Edit!





1. TRIMMED WITH LOVE design and hand-craft luxury bridal garters. Made in Britain, woven by hand and embellished with Swarovski crystals and pearls they are a perfect addition to your bridal lingerie. These heirloom pieces can be cherished for years to come. Quote LOVE10 for a 10% discount (exp. 30th June 2015). Visit www.trimmedwithlove.com or call 01535 640429.

2. DANAE TOBAJAS makes bespoke bridal wear to the highest quality standards. They take pride in working as a team with each client to create their dream dress. Mother-of-the-bride and bridesmaid dresses can also be commissioned. For more information visit www.danaetobajas.com or call 07450 418108



3. Situated in Newark on Trent, **JANE YOUNG** offers the ultimate experience in ladies fashion. Whether you are looking for the perfect Mother of the Bride outfit or a new holiday wardrobe, you will find a hand selected range of the latest fashion and accessories, from some of the most highly acclaimed designers. The shop can also offer a fantastic in house alteration service for that individual tailored fit. For luxury, elegance and quality call 01636 703511 or visit www.jane-young.co.uk





4. FLAMINGO is an independent designer ladies fashion retailer specialising in occasion wear. Having recently extended our dedicated occasion wear floor, we are proud to provide the largest selection of designer Mother of the Bride and Groom outfits in the North of England. Flamingo stocks exclusive designers such as Ian Stuart, Condici, John Charles, Ispirato, Luis Civit, Veni Infantino, Irresistible and Linea Raffaelli. With over 30 years of experience they aim to provide the perfect personal shopping experience tailored to suit your age, style and budget. Also offered is a bespoke shoe, handbag and millinery service creating the perfect accessories for your special day. For more information call 01772 744277 or visit www.flamingo-fashion.co.uk



Laura B
8 Yeoman's Row
Knightsbridge
London SW3 2AH
Tel: +44(0)20 7581 4123
www.laurab.com



5. JESSICA BENNETT BESPOKE BRIDE are a mother and daughter team that specialise in bespoke design and creation for brides, bridesmaids, mother of the bride and flower girls. For more information call 07852158566 or visit www.jessicabennettbespokebride.co.uk

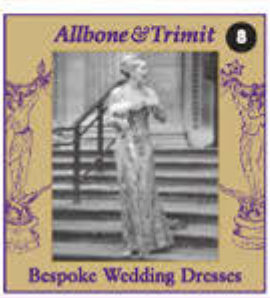
6. ANNE BLANCHARD specialises in providing exquisite hand crafted bridal wear from beautiful fabrics. With over 25 years' experience she delivers a uniquely bespoke service, focusing on care and attention to detail. Based in South East London and Kent borders. For a consultation call 07932 626691 or 020 8467 3920.



7. EDWARDS AND MILLERS. This stunning underwear brand takes inspiration from the classic shapes of the 40's and 50's. Oozing with Hollywood glamour, all pieces are designed for women with big busts and small backs. For more information email info@edwardsandmillers.com or visit www.edwardsandmillers.com



8. ALLBONE & TRIMIT Like to dress their brides a little differently. With this in mind they feel that the 'other woman' at the wedding, Mother of the Bride or Groom, should look equally as unique. All outfits are bespoke and made with precision and love for you to wear with flair. For more information call 07764 196284 or visit www.allboneandtrimit.co.uk



9. TIARARAMA. Stunning Ready-to-Wear collections, Limited Edition pieces and a couture service for brides that are looking for that special hair accessory. All designs are handmade in the UK using only the finest quality materials. Beau (pictured) is an asymmetric headband in sparkling Swarovski. To book an appointment, call 0845 3703110, email info@tiararama.co.uk or visit www.tiararama.co.uk



Photograph by Gemma Reynolds



10. BEAUTIFUL MOMENT specialises in hand-painting your wedding or occasion shoes with gorgeous bespoke designs which can include flowers, images and wording. For an online quote for the most unique shoes you'll ever own email mybeautifulmoment@gmail.com or visit www.BeautifulMoment.co.uk

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Beauty Call... Ready, Set, Glow!



1. STACEY AUSTIN creates beautiful wedding hair in any style from contemporary to vintage, across London and the Home Counties. With a natural flair for hair-up design, Stacey has been highly trained by celebrity stylist Leo Bancroft. Stacey works in partnership with the highly experienced Miki at Makeup by Miki, one of the UK's leading bridal make-up artists. Both are specialists in their fields, complementing each other to create the perfect look for any wedding. For more information, visit www.weddinghairdesign.co.uk email Stacey@weddinghairdesign.co.uk or call 07990 517179.

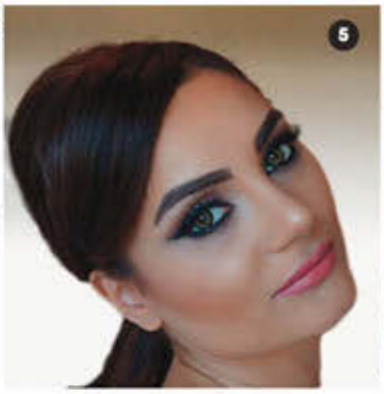


2. Premium quality, price sensitive British brand **BRYT SKINCARE** uses cutting-edge phytoscience, botanical extracts and superior organic antioxidants to care for all skin types, especially young adults whatever its needs and requirements. For all enquiries call +44 (0)2032895363. Discover BRYT Skincare, available from Waitrose branches countrywide and at www.brytskincare.co.uk





3. ALICE MARTIN is a freelance make-up artist based in Glasgow. Having trained at the London Academy of Freelance Makeup, one of the industry's most recognized fashion and bridal makeup schools, Alice understands that every bride wants to look radiant and beautiful on their special day and so offers a bespoke service, unique to each client. For more information call 07983 044732 or visit www.alicemartinmakeup.co.uk



4. GEMMA THOMPSON is a freelance make-up artist based in Central London. With over 8 years of experience in fashion, film, theatre and bridal you are guaranteed to look your absolute best on your special day. Gemma is available for events throughout the UK. For more information visit www.gemmathompson.net or call 07852 902854.

5. An expert at bridal makeup and Harley Street qualified Semi-Permanent **makeup artist, ROSITA SHAFIEE** will help to enhance your natural beauty to create your perfect look. Meticulous standards and attention to detail make for beautiful and happy brides. Call 07849 186191 or visit www.rositashafiee.com



6. MARCELA'S is a boutique beauty salon located in the heart of Kensington on Holland Street. With more than 20 years of experience in the beauty industry Marcela has made her salon famous for its unique, "Just One Touch", South American manicures and pedicures. Get yourself fresh for summer with their popular Environ facials and splash some life onto your nails with their latest collection of Shellac and Vinylux colours. Open Monday-Friday 9am-8pm, Saturday 10am-6pm and Sunday 10am-5pm. Call 020 7938 1555 to make an appointment or visit www.marcelas.co.uk for more information.

Marcela's



7. Your **TOTAL BODY SOLUTION** offers non-invasive body treatments using advanced technology to help you feeling amazing on your wedding day. Packages can be personalised to suit your needs. 20% off for Brides Magazine readers (Exp: 30/6/15). Visit www.yourtotalbodysolution.co.uk or call 020 333 222 12.



8. Don't let rough, dry, bumpy skin on the back of your arms, spoil your dream day. **AMELIORATE®** BODY LOTION is a ground breaking, patent pending formulation proven to help improve the appearance of Keratosis Pilaris (aka "chicken skin"), delivering softer, smoother, beautiful skin. Visit www.ameliorate-skincare.com or call +44(0)1225 785510.



9. HAIR BY LYNDY EWINGS won Best Beauty Services at the 2014 West Country Wedding Awards. Based in Tavistock Devon, Lyndy combines her infectious personality and artistic passion, making her the go-to connoisseur for wedding hair. With 17 years' experience, brides love her bespoke service and outstanding results. Quote BRIDES88 to receive 10% off. Offer ends 31 December 2015. For more information call 07929 588098 or visit www.hairbylyndyewings.co.uk

10. Boasting 26 years' experience in bridal hair and with a large team of freelance make-up artists and photographers, **COUTURE HAIR EVENTS** covers three counties and London. Beauty treatments are available at your preferred location. All bookings are subject to a 50% deposit. For more information call 07577 765938 or visit www.couturehairevents.co.uk

11. PERFECT IMAGE incorporates many ingredients into their professional peel lines, including natural plant and botanical extracts, rich in antioxidants, nutrients, and vitamins. To purchase the all new Gly + Sal Exfoliating Body Lotion today visit www.perfectimage-llc.com or call 001 800 366 2053.





12. ActiDerm introduces Hydra-Slim and ActiDiet. Hydra Slim is a delicious blend of super fruits and botanicals, including concentrated Acai Berry and African Mango. ActiDiet is formulated to give you 100% RDA and is delivered direct to your home. Visit www.actiderm.co.uk or call 0845 468 0045 for more information.



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Vintage Vows...

Get Antique-Chic!





1. DESIGNER CAKES BY ELLE. Cordon Bleu trained cake designer Elle creates beautiful, elegant, mouth-watering wedding cakes designed as unique centrepieces. Using her delicate sugar flowers, intricate piping, lace and exquisite flavours her cakes are not to be missed. Elle can also create irresistible macarons in every colour and flavour for a perfect way to thank your guests. For more information or to arrange a consultation or tasting, visit www.designercakesbyelle.co.uk call 07866 807276 or email cakes@designercakesbyelle.co.uk



2. RUSSET & GRAY offer a bespoke and personalised wedding stationery service. Their collections include vintage, traditional, bohemian, rustic and modern designs. All their stationery is personalised to compliment your big day. Visit www.russetandgray.co.uk or call 07759 125598.

3. Looking for creative inspiration and a wedding that is tailor-made to your needs? Then take a look at **H-COO** Events. Based in the South West they offer venue styling with a personal service. An outdoor venue is also available to hire. For more information visit www.hcooevents.co.uk or call 07940 382838.

4. DISCO WED. From the people behind the brilliant "Disco Shed" comes this spin-off wedding DJ service. Perfect for cool couples seeking a credible alternative to cheesy wedding DJ clichés, they rock receptions as expertly as they do huge festivals and club nights. Visit www.discowed.com or call 07734 568038 for more details.



5. SHROPSHIRE PETALS. Celebrate being a newly married couple with a shower of natural petal confetti. Use the online pick and mix tool to create your unique confetti mix. Visit www.shropshirepetals.com/discount for 10% off orders over £65 (excludes special offers and T&Cs apply) or for more information, call 01952 691553.



6. PINGLE PIE combines original hand painted designs with graphic arts to create beautiful stationery collections. Printed on high quality stock, each design can be personalised to your exact specifications. Kim is always on hand to offer you support with planning. Use the exclusive BRIDES60 code to receive 10% off until May 2015 when ordering online at www.PinglePie.com



7. WEDOFABGIFTS4U.CO.UK has a fabulous range of personalised gifts for weddings, babies, birthdays and all of life's occasions. They also have a great range of favours for parties, baby showers and weddings. Visit Them before your next occasion. Visit WeDoFabGifts4u.co.uk or call 0845 956 9777.



8. VINTAGE BOOTH provide vintage and themed photo booths that really add a fantastically fun dynamic to any wedding reception. Their new caravan booth is amazing and the entertainment value ensures your guests will have a truly memorable time. Visit www.vintage-booth.co.uk Call 0116 444 3773.



9. A unique idea for gifts from the bride and groom, bridal party gifts or wedding breakfast wine and Champagne, **THE WINE LABEL** has the answer. Their fully personalised wine and Champagne labels add a personal touch to your special day. Call 01732 369488 or visit www.thewinelabel.co.uk

10. ROCKA'S ROADHOUSE is a Bristol-based vintage DJ perfect for couples hosting an alternative wedding or for jazzing up any evening reception. With an innate passion for music from the 1940s onwards, Lula will work with you to create a bespoke playlist of your favourite songs from a range of genres including Electro-Swing, Jazz, 50s Rock and Roll, RnB, Soul, as well as contemporary classics. Lula also offers the service of styling the set in-keeping with your event. For a no obligation consultation and quote, contact Lula on 07587 243775 or visit www.rockasroadhouse.co.uk for more information.



11. MADE WITH LOVE AND LITTLE KISSES create completely bespoke, yet affordable, personalised keepsakes – all handmade with love in the UK! Every product is totally unique and personal to you and your wedding, whatever your theme! To order your own personal design, call 07975 613738 or visit www.madewithloveandlittlekisses.com for more information.



12. A VINTAGE TEA PARTY hires out all sorts of vintage wares for your wedding, whether it be tea sets or table cloths! The team are on-hand to help you set up and will even take away the dirty dishes. For more information call 07722 409323 or visit www.avintageteaparty.com



13. VINTAGE TROUSSEAU – A hope chest and glory box of loveliness! Choose from our romantic collection of vintage inspired wedding dresses, or have a truly bespoke service to create the wedding dress of your dreams. Based in East London. Visit www.vintagetrousseau.com or email vintagetrousseau@hotmail.com to make an appointment.



14. GLOW LOVE LIGHTS offer the hire of their show stopping over-sized letter lights for weddings and events. These totally versatile, hand crafted lights add something quite special to any space, and with nationwide delivery they really are going places. To find out more, visit www.glowlovelights.com email glowlovelights@gmail.com or call 07894 305261.

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The Sweetest Thing...

Love These Bites!



1. DAISY ICES is a beautiful vintage ice cream van delivering glamour and fun and serving delicious luxury treats to weddings, parties and events. Daisy is dressed in vintage style bunting and fresh flowers, offering luxury handmade ice cream, retro sweets, gourmet popcorn, soft drinks and hot chocolate. For more information visit www.daisyicecreamvan.co.uk email daisyicecreamvan@hotmail.co.uk or call 01189 402090.



2. FANCY THAT WEDDING CAKES, specialise in handcrafted Croquembouche and beautifully finished celebration cakes for weddings. With numerous years of experience behind them, they truly know how to create the perfect center piece for your wedding. You can visit their kitchen in Oxfordshire to discuss your vision for the big day, along with tastings and see a Croquembouche in its final stages. Catering for the whole of the south. Visit their website at fancythatweddingcakes.co.uk or for more information email them at enquiries@fancythatweddingcakes.co.uk or give them a call on 01235 770 700.



3. SWEETHEART CANDY CARTS are a Kent based company who provide beautiful personalised Candy Carts and Ferrero Rocher towers for your special day. Their affordable packages are catered to suit your individual needs and themes. From classic pick n mix to retro sweets, for more information visit www.sweetheartcandycarts.co.uk or call 07860 337421.







4. THE WHITE ROSE BAKERY, by sugar artist and cake designer Lucia Gallie, is a Devon based company that specialises in textured, embellished and floral vintage designs. The cake shown is inspired by a couture gown, with appliqué sugar flowers, blossoms, leaves and stems. Elegant, unique cakes with a bespoke service, the White Rose Bakery offers something special and will guide brides from start to finish through the design process. For more information visit www.whiterosebakery.co.uk or call Lucia on 01822 610759.



5. POP SCOTCH BAKERY. is the brainchild of Naz Mir, an avid baker and artist. Based in South West London, POP Scotch Bakery combines unique creativity with delicious recipes for cake pops, cakes and cupcakes. Perfect for wedding favours or simply special sweet treats, prices start from £2.00. For more information visit: www.popscotchbakery.co.uk or call: 07825 069 303





6. CAKES BY LIZ LAMBERT AND LORRAINE MITCHELL, Weybridge, Surrey. Handmade and designed just for you, this Surrey boutique bakery prides itself on cakes that taste as good as they look. Tiered cakes, cupcake bouquets, fabulous French Macarons, and full Dessert Tables are just some of the treats on offer. Find out more at www.cakesbylizlorraine.co.uk or call them on 07850 692 616.

7. ONE & ALL SWEET CARTS are a Cornwall based company providing sweet carts, candy carts and candy buffets. They offer a variety of carts and sweet stations, catering to all themes and styles, designing something beautiful and delicious for you and your guests. Also providing an assortment of glassware, scoops, tongs, paper bags and table décor, for more information visit www.oneandall-sweetcarts.co.uk or call 07842 584454.



8. MY LITTLE CAKE TIN is a creative culinary journey combining a love for both baking and design. All of their cakes and bakes are beautifully hand crafted with love and attention to detail in a five star food and hygiene certified kitchen in North London. They make wedding cakes and set up dessert tables with wonderful displays of cakes, bakes and desserts for any occasion and theme. Perfect for those times when only a cake will do, for more information visit www.mylittlecaketin.co.uk or contact Tarunima on 07974711190 or tarunima@mylittlecaketin.co.uk

9. CORNISH CANDY CARTS add a personalised wow factor to your wedding, adding a sweet and nostalgic experience. Their beautiful candy carts, ferris wheels and vintage candy floss carts will be a hit for anyone with a sweet tooth. They cater to Cornwall and Devon. To view the full range visit www.cornishcandycarts.co.uk or email them cornishcandycarts@hotmail.co.uk or call them on 01579 326172.



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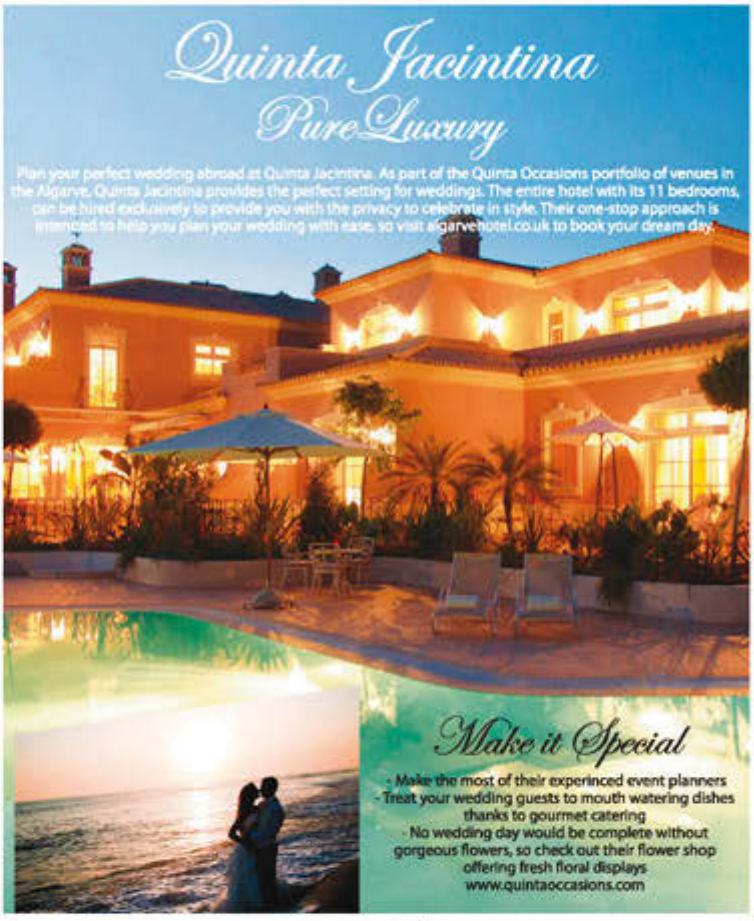
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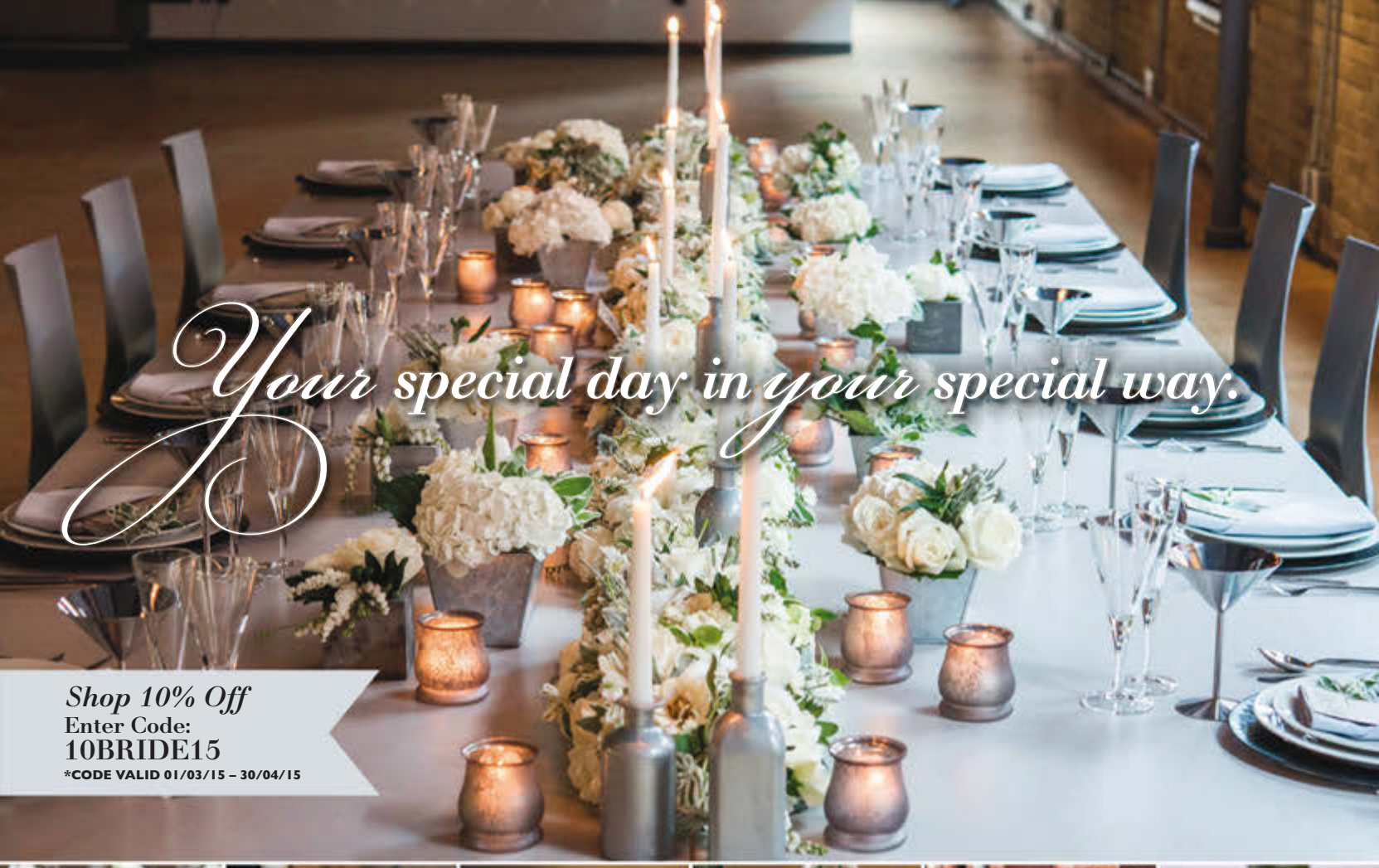
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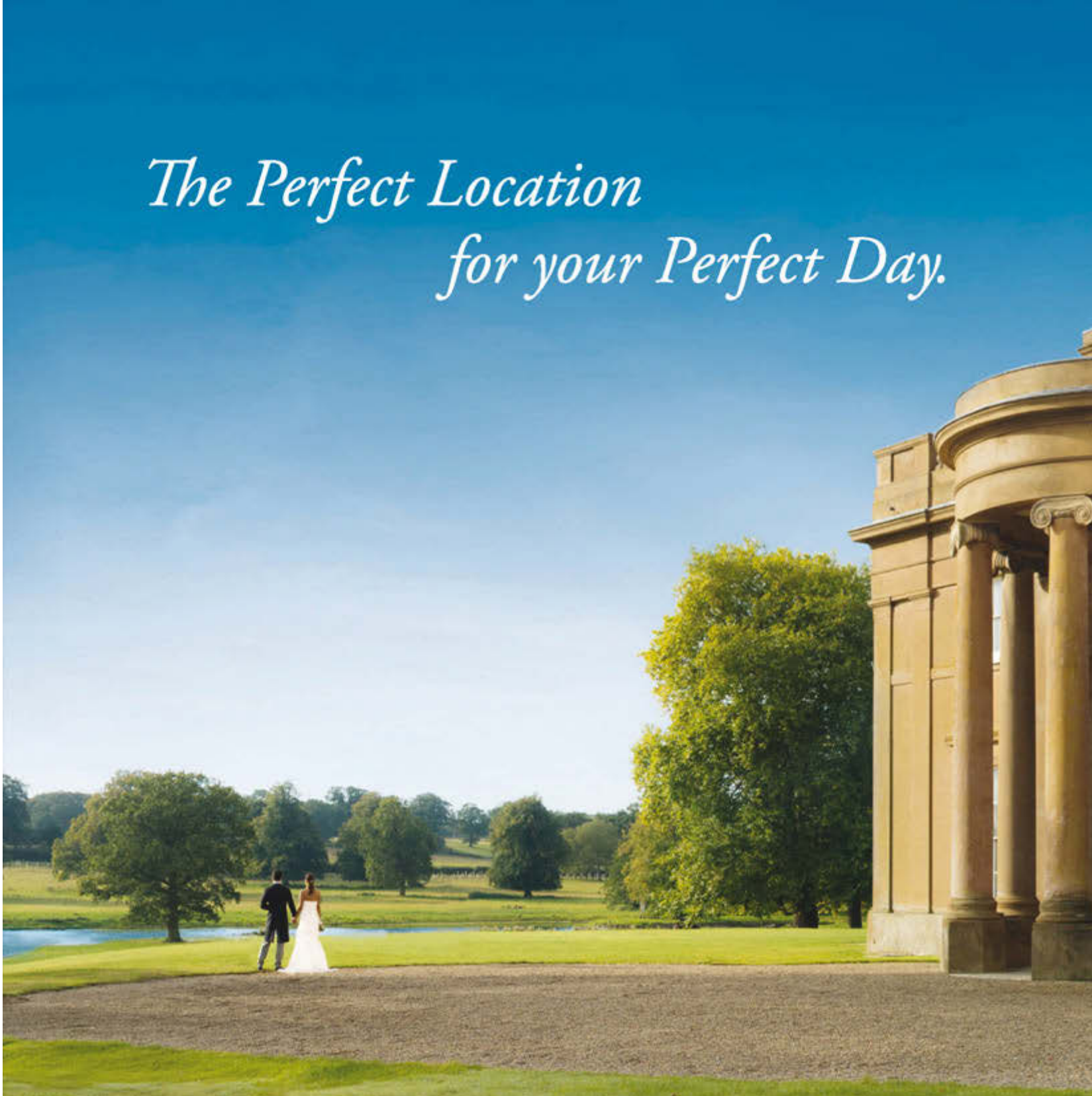


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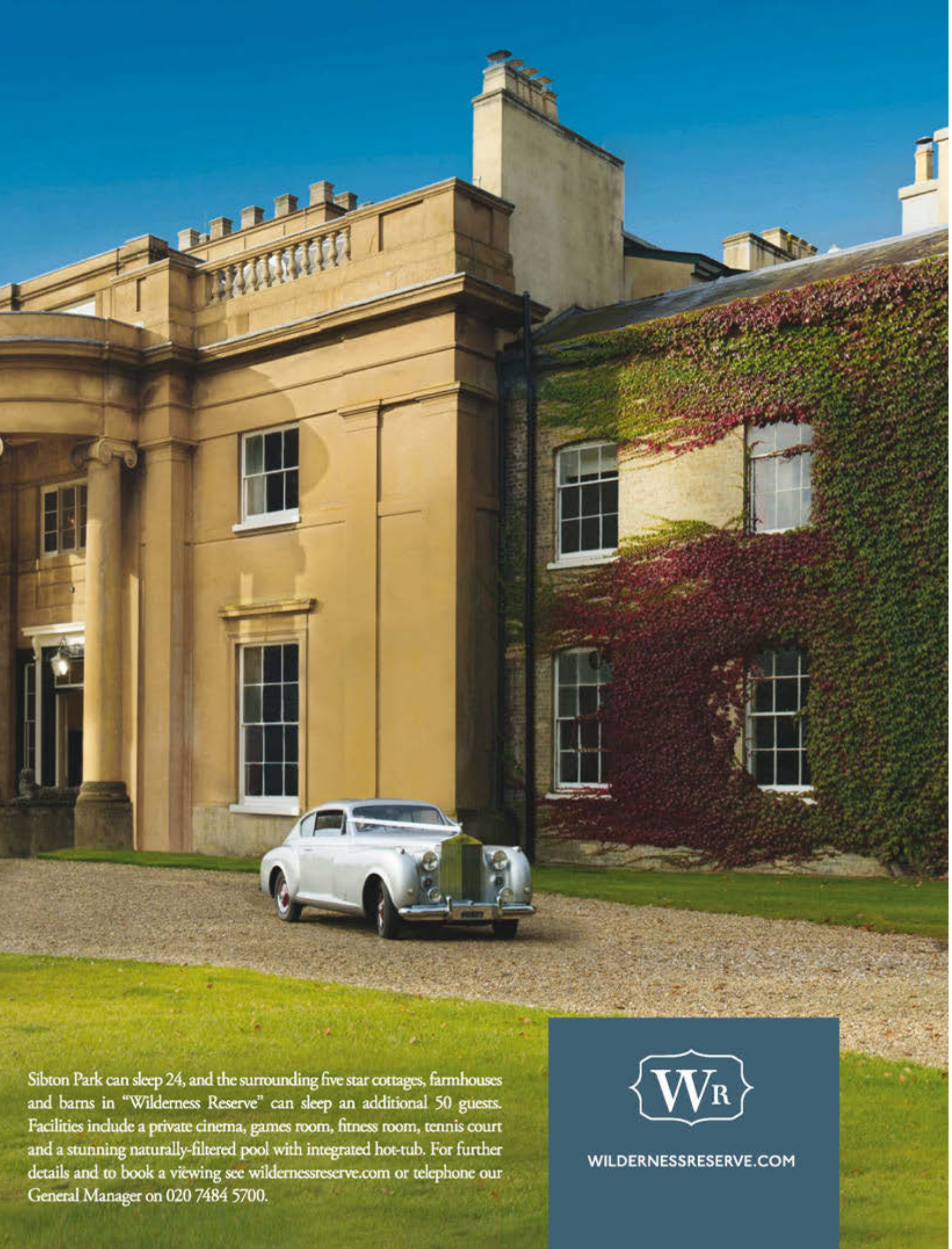
The UK & Ireland’s 70 best places to wed

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Welcome to the *Brides* Top 70 UK and Ireland Venues Guide. This year, we've scoured the world to bring you the ***best 70 venues at home*** and ***30 of the finest places to wed abroad*** right now. And we think we've nailed it with our clever flip-cover (turn the magazine over for abroad venues). Let's face it, picking the perfect location is the first step to creating a day that has 'you' written all over it. So, what are your bridal dreams made of? Will you choose an ***offbeat woodland wonder,*** or maybe a ***fairytale statement setting?*** Perhaps you picture yourself on a ***British beach among the dunes,*** or living it up in one of ***London's top luxury hotels.*** Whatever you're looking for, I'm confident you'll find the perfect setting for your wedding in this definitive guide to the UK and Ireland. Just make sure you have fun choosing it!

Jade

JADE BEER EDITOR

COVER PHOTOGRAPH: CHRIS EVERARD. PHOTOGRAPH: EDDIE JUDD PHOTOGRAPHY/PIERRE CARR

CONTENTS

5 WE ❤ LONDON
The capital's smartest spots for your big day, whether you're on the lookout for a rising star or a stunning classic

9 THE BIG HITTERS
Book well ahead to snag these mega-in-demand venues across the UK and Ireland

13 BOHEMIAN BEATS
From perfect posh pubs to tipis in the Dales – via a treehouse by a loch – we've got your rustic dream locations covered

19 ON THE WATER
Say 'I do' on the sand, make your vows in a maritime marquee, or get wed at a lighthouse

25 STATEMENT SETTINGS
Go big or go home! Here's our pick of the castles, ballrooms and grand venues – you can even stay overnight in a king's bedroom

35 ALL THE PRETTY PADS
A dozen gorgeous, laid-back settings for your celebrations, from cosy barns to lavender-filled gardens

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1 MC MOTORS, DALSTON

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CONTACT *castlegibson.com/locations/mc-motors*



2 THE ROOF GARDENS, KENSINGTON

A verdant paradise complete with flamingos (yes, they are real), this acre-and-a-half of themed rooftop gardens, 100ft above Kensington High Street, takes an outdoor city celebration to the next level. After an indoor ceremony in the stylish Clubhouse, al fresco is the only way to go; let its team create an all-weather canopy in either the Spanish, Tudor or English woodland areas, among the trees and tropical plants, for a jungle-style knees-up.

150

CONTACT *roofgardens.virgin.com*



3 NUMBER SIXTEEN, SOUTH KENSINGTON

It's the leafy 'secret garden'-style courtyard that makes this venue so special. Have your ceremony in the cosy conservatory, fit for just 20 guests, before an outdoor cocktail reception among the rambling roses. You'll be struck by the eclectic design inside this white stucco Victorian building – think antique paintings mixed with modern furnishings and prints in pops of yellow and pink.

20 £50

CONTACT *firmdalehotels.com*



4 HOTEL CAFÉ ROYAL, PICCADILLY

The chosen hangout of Oscar Wilde and HG Wells in the 19th century, Café Royal reopened in 2012 as a super-luxe hotel, and they now have their long-awaited wedding licence – hurrah! With a host of wedding planners and more than a few event spaces to choose from (think glam bars and opulent ballrooms), you'll be spoilt for choice. Our favourite? The Pompadour Ballroom, with its mirrored panels and stunning gilded ceiling (left). Throw open the doors onto the terrace and watch your guests gawp at the sweeping views of Regent Street and Piccadilly Circus.

120 £185

CONTACT *hotelcaferoyal.com* →

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AT HOME Venues WE ♥ LONDON



5 SHANGRI-LA AT THE SHARD, LONDON BRIDGE

Views don't come better than the ones at the 308-metre-high Shard, which opened last summer amid much hype. We love, love, *love* the grand staircase and double-height windows, which offer the opportunity for an entrance and photo backdrop that pack a punch. Have a cocktail reception in the Asian-influenced Gong Bar on the 52nd floor, or hold a champagne and canapé hour by the sleek pool. 'Wow' doesn't even come close.

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CONTACT *shangri-la.com*



6 BOURNE & HOLLINGSWORTH BUILDINGS, CLERKENWELL

Imagine the faded grandeur of an old country house paired with a healthy dollop of a modern brasserie, and you'll have a good idea of this latest London hotspot. Designed by the masterminds behind Soho House, it has all the informal but luxe vibes you'd expect. Seat 70 guests in the restaurant – all cane garden furniture and wrought-iron benches – savour the pretty green house and party till dawn.

CONTACT *bourneandhollingsworth.com*



7 HOME HOUSE, MARYLEBONE

Bespoke is the word at this private members' club, made up of three interconnecting Georgian townhouses. The first two are all about old-school elegance, with a sweeping staircase (right) perfect for posing, while the third is cutting edge, with a fluid and sensational bar. There are also bedrooms for guests, an intimate garden for a cocktail reception and a night club for post-wedding parties – if you're looking for a top DJ (or anything besides), just ask the well-connected planning team.

80 £100

CONTACT *homehouse.co.uk*

8 KEW GARDENS, KEW

There are several swoon-worthy sites to get hitched at this iconic location, but *Brides* loves The Nash Conservatory, with its high ceilings and elegant cream columns, for a natural-light-bathed ceremony, and The Orangery (left) for a chic wedding breakfast. There's no need to worry about the flower budget here – guests can roam around all 300 acres of stunning gardens (the rose garden is not to be missed).

200

CONTACT *kew.org*

9 THE BERKELEY, KNIGHTSBRIDGE

This swanky hotel with an A-list clientele to match is *the* location for a high-end city wedding. The hotel's white colour palette and chic finishings give a fresh feel, and offer a blank backdrop for you to get as creative as you like (the wedding team encourage it!). Of course, you'll find a fairytale ballroom, but for a more intimate do with buckets of elegance, book the Belgravia Room – its large windows overlook picturesque Wilton Place. After-hours, The Blue Bar has sophisticated (and delicious) cocktails.

180

CONTACT *the-berkeley.co.uk*

10 ACE HOTEL, SHOREDITCH

If you're looking for an off-the-wall space with spades of character (of the hipster East London variety), this is the kooky place for you. The Ace is also an events venue, and its calendar is jam-packed with anything from punk exhibitions to all-night raves via moccasin-making workshops, so expect your big day to offer plenty of alternative Shoreditch vibes. Any guests planning to stay over will love the rooms, complete with vintage furniture and original artworks.

70 £85

CONTACT *acehotel.com* →



ON THE DAY
Dress designer Sassi Holford, a glittering catwalk show plus masses of inspiration!

EXCLUSIVE EVENT!

Don't miss out on the highlight of the year: an afternoon of wedding inspiration and a catwalk show at the sensational Goodwood House in Sussex.



***BRIDES* INVITES YOU** to a one-off wedding showcase at the world-famous Goodwood House. Surrounded by 12,000 acres of spectacular, unspoilt parkland, the magnificent setting makes Goodwood House the perfect wedding venue and this is your once-in-a-lifetime chance to see the house in all its grandeur. Goodwood House is all about personal touches, intimate and heartfelt service alongside its renowned excellence for entertaining. The options are literally endless when it comes to getting wed in one of the country's most spectacular stately homes. From a cosy lunch in the opulent Egyptian Room, complete with richly detailed gilded cartouches, sphinx, birds and crocodiles to a banquet for 180 in the ballroom, this is your chance to see each room in all its glory. Not only will you get to spend the afternoon in the stunning surroundings of the house, but we have organised heaps of inspiration from flowers to decorations, culminating in a fabulous salon-style catwalk show. Upon arrival, you will be greeted by Goodwood's butlers with a glass of champagne in the legendary Yellow Room. Then you'll make your way into the charming ballroom for a lavish seated Goodwood afternoon tea complete with scones, champers and sandwiches. Each table will be set up with exquisite florals to give you some ideas for your reception. Finally one of Britain's top bridal designers Sassi Holford will present her latest bridal collection to help you find *the* dress. Trust us – it's a day not to be missed!







BOOK NOW!

WHEN: Sunday 29 March 2015, 2-4pm
WHERE: Goodwood House, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0PX
TICKETS: £20 per person
RSVP: samantha.pordage@goodwood.com

Dorchester *Collection*

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The BIG hitters

LET'S GET SERIOUS. THESE ARE SOME OF THE MOST SOUGHT-AFTER VENUES IN THE UK – BOOK QUICK!



Jenny Grace, 29, married Chris Price, 47, on 13 September 2012

11 LIME WOOD, NEW FOREST

She says: 'Chris and I fell for Lime Wood the moment we turned into the stunning driveway. It was completely to our taste, from the pretty herb garden on top of the spa to the peaceful terrace, and we loved the contemporary yet classic decor that gives the property a private and elegant feel. We loved that it was exclusive use; our family stayed with us in the main house and friends holed up in the gorgeous forest cottages tucked away in the woods. We had a truly magical day – it was exactly what we'd hoped for, if not more.'

60 £500

CONTACT *limewoodhotel.co.uk*



12 GOODWOOD, SUSSEX

The possibilities are endless. Make an entrance on horseback from the Goodwood stables, or fly off against a backdrop of fireworks in one of the estate's Cessnas. Or why not hire a carousel for your guests? When it comes to choosing your venue, you're spoilt (again). Options include the famous racecourse, offering stunning vistas of the South Downs, but we love the grandeur of Goodwood House (left), home to the Dukes of Richmond for more than 300 years, with its priceless works of art.

£70

CONTACT *goodwood.com*



13 BELMOND LE MANOIR AUX QUAT'SAISONS, OXFORDSHIRE

A wedding breakfast designed by Raymond Blanc? Yes, please! Even better, to celebrate its anniversary, Le Manoir has just opened its new La Belle Epoque Conservatory at the heart of this country home and two-Michelin-starred restaurant. The bright, open and cheerfully contemporary space overlooks the 15th-century manor house's original garden and has its own secluded entrance for utter privacy. Marry in the lavender-scented gardens, tuck into a fabulous menu and then retire to a plush suite.

50

CONTACT *belmond.com*

14 COWORTH PARK, BERKSHIRE

We challenge you to find a better wildflower meadow to host your reception in the UK. Book between May and September, and you'll find it in full bloom for amazing photos. Coworth Park is a triumph of country chic: not a whiff of fusty floral-print and ageing hunting trophies here; instead, expect four-posters with subtle tree-branch designs, a slick spa with herb-garden roof and possibly the best comfort-food wedding grub going.

90 £165

CONTACT *dorchestercollection.com* →

PHOTOGRAPH: MARK SEYMOUR



15 FOUR SEASONS HOTEL, HAMPSHIRE

This country bolthole has been in our lives a mere decade (it opened on Valentine's Day 2005), but boy, is it one of our all-time faves. In true Four Seasons style, everything is just right, from a six-seater dining room in the Royal Suite to falconry displays in the grounds. And weddings are no exception. Say 'I do' in the 16th-century walled garden that sits amid a 500-acre estate of pristine countryside, then dance the night away in a fairytale ballroom. Worried about the cost? Why not book one of its popular mid-week weddings? A five-star service without the five-star price.

£88

CONTACT *fourseasons.com*

16 THE CONNAUGHT, LONDON

From the streets that surround it, to the feeling that envelops you on arrival – as doormen in top hats and white gloves fanfare you in – this is sheer, shameless luxury. Tom Ford and Hollywood celebs are regulars, but *all* guests are treated like royalty here. For an all-out ballroom do for hundreds, book the sumptuous Mayfair room (below). The hotel is extra-welcoming – expect pageboys and flower girls to be spoilt.

120 £75

CONTACT *the-connaught.co.uk*



17 CHEWTON GLEN, HAMPSHIRE

There are dreamy spots aplenty at this country-house hotel – from striking summer houses and lake suites (croquet on the lawn, anyone?) through to wine cellars and lavender-filled kitchen gardens. Heck, you can get married in a treehouse! Meanwhile, the fine-dining options will make you weep with joy. And did we mention the hotel's just a hop from the beach? Whether you're planning an intimate do for two or want the hotel exclusively for 180 guests, this is as good as it gets.

£175

CONTACT *chewtonglen.com*

18 ROSEWOOD, LONDON

This hotel was a game-changer when it opened in 2013, not only for its magnificent physical Belle Epoque presence, but for its gourmet offerings (try The Holborn Dining Room for bold British brasserie fare). This place has the 'X Factor' by the bucketload. And when it comes to weddings, there's a 'Director of Romance' at your beck and call to help with everything from choosing curtains to picking out cutlery.

£90 £176

CONTACT *rosewoodhotels.com*

19 HUNTSHAM COURT, DEVON

Imagine taking over an incredible Victorian mansion as your very own home-from-stately-home. The owners are hands-on and eager to please, with no boring rulebook in sight; feel free to shift the furniture and bring in your own food to stock the larders. Also, pleasingly, you won't find any such thing as corkage fees here. The 34 bedrooms are all uniquely decorated, with more than a nod to the Victorian era – there are ancient musical instruments, grand oil paintings and watchful moose heads scattered around.

£170

CONTACT *huntshamcourt.co.uk*



20 BALLYFIN, IRELAND

This imposing mansion, tucked into the gorgeous Co. Laois countryside, is all lush interiors, glittering French chandeliers and ancestral portraits. Pitch a marquee in the lush landscaped grounds and let guests explore the walled gardens, Edwardian rockery and boating lake, before heading indoors for cocktails by the library fire and a bespoke menu by Bronx-born chef Ryan Murphy.

130

CONTACT *ballyfin.com* →

A very *English* *Fairytale*

Capture the history and romance of the last three centuries with a wedding at the magnificent Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire



SET WITHIN 500 ACRES OF RURAL PARKLAND, Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire is the ultimate English country venue. Imagine saying 'I do' in a Georgian manor house dating back to 1728, which believe it or not, was where Henry VIII first set eyes on Catherine of Aragon (his first wife). Talk about a house with stories…

Not only is Four Seasons one of the UK's most glamorous wedding venues, the hotel's facilities are second to none.

You and your bridesmaids can make the most of the spa, while the boys throw on their plus-fours for a day of fishing, clay shooting, falconry or male bonding courtesy of the hotel's Highwire Adventure in the surrounding woodland. Radiant from all the fresh air and pampering, you and your beau are certain to be on top form for your rehearsal dinner in the hotel's decadent salon privé, then it's cocktails at Bar 1086! On the big day itself, spectacular heritage-listed gardens can provide the backdrop to your ceremony, and the orchard, which has seen many a successful hog roast in its time, is perfect for summer weddings. Throw in a game of croquet, and it's as English as it gets. Many choose the light-filled ballroom with private terrace for larger wedding receptions, and for good reason: it seats 170-200 guests and easily accommodates a dancefloor.



"One of the UK's most glamorous venues"

With a new wedding manager, recently poached from Highclere Castle (aka Downton Abbey), the glamour has been upped even further, and we're sure you'll agree this venue has the storybook charm every bride dreams of. The only question is, can your groom eat as much as Henry VIII?





Location, Location, Location!

Just an hour outside London, Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire is easily reached by road (M3) or rail (there's a mainline station five minutes away by taxi) and for guests flying in from other countries, the hotel is 35 minutes from London Heathrow.

READER OFFER

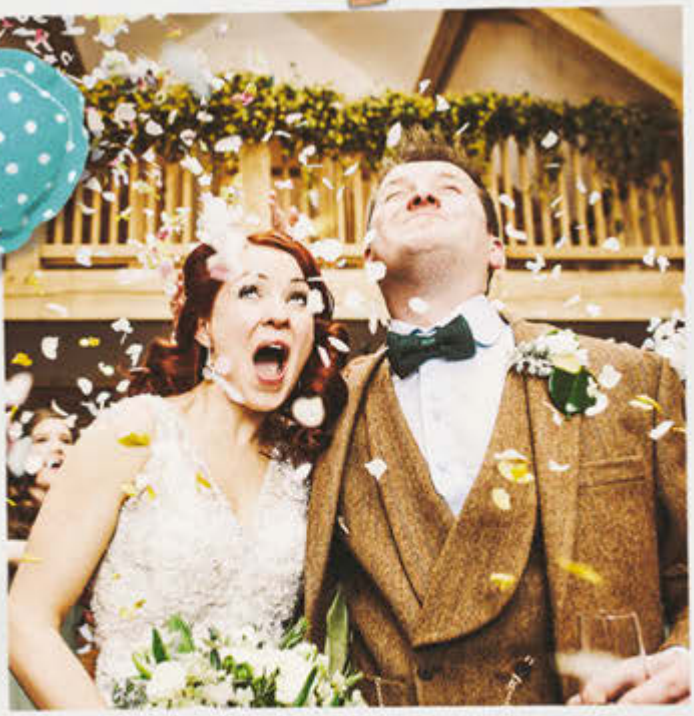
Brides readers booking a wedding at Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire will get a complimentary Mews Bedroom the night before their big day. Minimum guest numbers and bedroom requirements apply. For full details contact the hotel.

To enquire about wedding bookings at Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire

EMAIL EMMA.WESTACOTT@FOURSEASONS.COM OR CALL 01252 853 025 @FSHAMPSHIRE

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Images courtesy of Pinterest, Andy Gaines Photography and Paul Willetts Photography.

Bohemian BEATS

IF YOU'RE SEEKING A PERFECT BARN OR THAT WOODLAND WONDER, THESE RUSTIC RETREATS WILL FIT THE BILL



21 COTTONWOOD WEDDINGS, HAMPSHIRE

What does Cottonwood have up its sleeve? Only a string of private wedding venues in the New Forest! An estate with its own woods, a romantic converted barn, a festival-ready field... this unfussy medley is run by husband and wife team Paul and Hannah Middlewick, who can, on request, provide everything you need, so you don't need to rattle back and forth between external suppliers.

£70

CONTACT *cottonwoodweddings.co.uk*



22 THE MILK THISTLE AND THE OX, BRISTOL

Housed over four floors in one of the finest historic buildings in Bristol, this is the place for you if you're looking for a city venue (minutes from the register office) with heaps of romantic touches and a nod to all things vintage. Have a bespoke buffet up in the attic space or, for more of an intimate party, host your own sit-down dinner for up to 80 at The Ox restaurant – just make sure to book the resident gramophone DJ.

CONTACT *milkthistlebristol.com*

23 PLAN-IT-EARTH, CORNWALL

You won't get any closer to nature than this wonderfully pretty eco-conscious haven. Plan-it Earth's magical offbeat venue – hidden in the Cornish countryside – could be home to Titania and her fairy fleet. Celebrations take place in an ancient healing well, which dates back to 800AD, and the Longhouse is also available for small receptions. Post-proceedings, retire to The Hobbit House – as fantastical as it sounds – before enjoying drinks by the fire pit come nightfall.

CONTACT *canopyandstars.co.uk*



PHOTOGRAPH: CARRIE BUGG PHOTOGRAPHY

24 WEDDERBURN BARNS, SCOTTISH BORDERS

There's no two ways about it – Wedderburn Barns is a *knockout*. Proceedings start in The Provender Barn (left) – set in a lovely Georgian stable-block, with natural stone walls, wrought-iron chandeliers and flagstone flooring – fit for a 150-strong banquet around sturdy trestle tables. Plump for a hog roast, in keeping with the boho vibes. Then whirl over to The Cart Shed for live bands/DJs/ ceilidhs or whatever else tickles your fancy.

150 £40

CONTACT *wedderburn-castle.co.uk* →



25 THE TREEHOUSE ON LOCH GOIL, SCOTLAND

Picture this: a serene loch stretched out on one side, a majestic mountainous backdrop on the other and – you're in a treehouse! Rest assured, though: this isn't just a few recycled slabs of wood your dad has nailed to the strongest-looking tree in the garden; this is five-star fun with opulent furnishings and tasteful decor. After exchanging vows in the sky, spend the night in the Lodge's Summerhouse, buried away in the loveliest of landscaped gardens and grounds. This is one of those super-special spots – prepare for you (and guests) to feel giddy with excitement.

24

CONTACT *thelodge-scotland.com*



26 NATURAL RETREATS, YORKSHIRE

We were thrilled to hear this chic collection of country cabins for hire is now offering weddings at its Yorkshire Dales location. All the action takes place at The Sanctuary, a natural-light-swamped hilltop venue, with versatile outdoor space and awe-inspiring views across the dales – pick from three rooms depending on the size of your party, or hire them all. Natural Retreats offers a planner to help with everything from flower arrangements to spa treatments. Don't forget to book your friends into all 18 of the award-winning lodges on site for the night.

200 £68

CONTACT *naturalretreats.com*

27 BARSHAM BARNS, NORFOLK

Barsham Barns has always been known for a good ol' local knees-up, but it only flung open its doors to wedding receptions last year. Just 10 minutes from north Norfolk's handsome coastline, this is proper fairytale countryside, with gardens full of peonies and lavender. Frolic in meadows, perch on hay bales, and crash out in tipis. It doesn't have a wedding licence yet, but Holkham Hall is nearby.

CONTACT *barshambarns.co.uk*



28 THE LORD CREWE ARMS, CO. DURHAM

On the doorstep of the 12th-century Blanchland Abbey, after a £1.5million renovation last year, sits this 21-room hotel-cum-posh pub in medieval village Blanchland, on the Northumberland and Durham border. Encircled by the North Pennine Moors, it doesn't do anything by halves – expect blooming gardens in summer, popping log fires in winter. From an all-singing, all-dancing party to an intimate affair with your nearest and dearest, these guys know how to throw a special party.

60

CONTACT *lordcrewearmsblanchard.co.uk* →











The perfect wedding in an iconic location

Happy Ever After - A Wedding With A Twist

A memorable wedding begins with a romantic rustic location and The Lodge on Loch Goil is as special as your day will be.

Your wedding day is one of the most important days of your life, discover our amazing treehouse and you have found a truly unique setting where you can make your wedding dreams come true.

This enchanting arts & crafts house sets the perfect scene for a unique bespoke wedding celebration, and is just over an hour's drive from Glasgow international airport.

Let The magic Begin

Warm and welcoming, its hard to look at our wedding venue and not feel completely invested in every detail planned and designed by us, it's a day that is not only beautiful in the physical sense but also wrapped up in emotion. The heart and soul of The Lodge on Loch Goil is real weddings, everyday we are inspired, amazed and swept off our feet by beautiful weddings from all around the world.

At The Lodge on Loch Goil we offer something a little different, we provide the extra wow factor. Our professional wedding planner who knows the venue and what people want, would be delighted to talk you through all your hopes and aspirations for your wedding day.

★★★★★
THE LODGE
on Loch Goil

The Lodge on Loch Goil, Argyll, Scotland PA24 8AE
t. +44 (0) 1301 703 193 e. events@thelodge-scotland.com
thelodge-scotland.com

All images©Fotogenic





29 SMOCK ALLEY THEATRE, DUBLIN

A restored 17th-century theatre, Smock Alley sits on the banks of the River Liffey and has stunning stained-glass windows and beautiful ornate ceilings (left), as well as four separate versatile spaces, catering for anything between 70 and 300 guests. It's fully licensed, too, so you and your party can celebrate till the early hours roll around. Take your photos on the cute cobbled Cow's Lane just outside.

300

CONTACT *smockalley.com*



30 THE KEEPER AND THE DELL, NORFOLK

This rustic hideaway consists of a woodland dell, an 18th-century gamekeeper's barn, canvas marquee (right) and gently landscaped gardens for camping. All props and pretties are sourced by owner Lolly Streek, who likes each wedding to have a homespun feel and doesn't charge 'silly things like corkage'. Lolly has local firms that can supply everything from retro caravans to beautiful bell tents. No wonder brides-to-be are falling over themselves to secure a booking.

100

CONTACT *thekeeperandthedell.com*



31 WINKWORTH FARM, WILTSHIRE

This family-owned Cotswolds venue is so pretty, you'll want to book your big day before you've made it up the drive. Nothing is too much trouble for owners Jeremy and Melanie Newman, who have a knack of treating every wedding like it's the most important event *ever*. If you've got a green streak, prepare to be seduced further still. Rainwater is collected from the roof and used to water the luscious gardens, and for every wedding held, a new sapling is planted.

200 £45

CONTACT *winkworthfarm.com*



32 CURRADINE BARNS, WORCESTERSHIRE

Formerly a grain store, the assembly of picturesque red-brick barns at Curradine exudes character and charm. The main Granary Barn (left), where the ceremony is performed, has an elevated gallery, so your photographer will be able to get some great overhead shots, and the Honeymoon Suite is so sumptuous – think giant four-poster, exposed beams, plump chaise longue and thick shagpile carpet – we guarantee, you'll be returning for years to come.

150

CONTACT *curradinebarns.co.uk* →



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CAIN MANOR, HAMPSHIRE









On the WATER

MAKE A BREAK FOR THE SHORE (OR SAY 'I DO' AT THE DOCKS!)

33 TUNNELS BEACHES, DEVON

You can only reach this one-off venue via tunnels that were hand-carved through the cliffs almost 200 years ago. Now, *that's* a talking point. When you arrive, you won't find your standard golden shore; this beach is of the black-sand variety, and you'll be tying the knot under a thatched gazebo (left) with the sheer cliff face of Ilfracombe as your witness. Later on, when it gets chilly, make sure you gather around the fire pits with a delicious hot rum toddy.

120 £50

CONTACT *tunnelsbeaches.co.uk*



34 ATLANTIC HOTEL, JERSEY

It's official: Jersey is the warmest location in the British Isles. Hello, idyllic outdoor wedding! Just a 10-minute drive from the airport, this hotel has an unrivalled position overlooking the bay of St Ouen; you can almost feel that balmy Atlantic breeze. What we like most is its Ibiza-like styling: a crisp, contemporary exterior, all white balconies and straight edges. Don't leave without tasting the lobster in the Ocean Restaurant – it's no wonder chef Mark Jordan has a Michelin star. The biggest bonus? He'll be the one to create your big-day menu, with all of the produce sourced locally.

60

CONTACT *theatlantichotel.com*



35 STAR CASTLE HOTEL, ISLES OF SCILLY

With a register office right on the beach, St Mary's in the Isles of Scilly is a more than picture-perfect destination. Just a stroll from Porthcressa Bay is this gem of a hotel. Why not hold your reception in the Star Castle's bright conservatory? Its dangling grapevines make for a dreamily romantic atmosphere.

40 £65

CONTACT *star-castle.co.uk*

36 BEACH WEDDINGS, DORSET

Book yourselves a camper van for your journey down to Bournemouth; it'll be an ideal fit for a quirky seaside shindig at this venue. Exchange vows under the driftwood arch (above), housed inside a marquee, then mingle on the beach with your guests. Ditch classic canapés for posh fish'n'chips followed by old-school Mr Whippy ice creams, before skipping along the promenade to one of Beach Weddings' partner venues for a fiesta under the stars.

400 £34

CONTACT *beachweddingsbournemouth.co.uk* →



AT HOME Venues ON THE WATER



37 THE GALLIVANT, SUSSEX

You'll find this intimate New England-style hotel perched among the rolling dunes of the striking Camber Sands coastline (above right). The hotel is licensed to host ceremonies for up to 120 people, but The Gallivant is also happy to suggest alternative nearby locations, including a lighthouse next to the beach. We adore those nostalgic, laid-back vibes; picture canapés delivered in picnic hampers, funky flip-flops provided for all your guests and a beach hut decked out with reclaimed driftwood benches and lime-washed chairs. This is pure summer loving.

120 £95

CONTACT *thegallivant.co.uk*

38 SEAHAM HALL, CO. DURHAM

A striking position overlooking the Durham coastline is the real selling point of this restored Georgian manor house, dating back to 1791. If it's a traditional religious ceremony you're after, make sure you get hitched at the church next door – it's one of the oldest in the country. Oh, and Seaham Hall was even the choice of venue for hopelessly romantic poet (and infamous rogue!) Lord Byron. We're sold.

80

CONTACT *seaham-hall.co.uk*





39 THE SCARLET, CORNWALL

It's the colossal clifftop hot tubs and the outdoor natural pool that send The Scarlet to the top of our coastal-cool list. Looking for a seriously intimate do? The team will happily cater for just the two of you (and even supply witnesses); or, for a grander bash, you can book out this eco-hotel for two nights, taking over all 37 of its gorgeous and modern rooms. An informal ceremony takes place in the Retreat Lounge, with most guests standing – it's cosy, but has sweeping seaside views.

78

CONTACT *scarlethotel.co.uk*



40 TITANIC HOTEL, LIVERPOOL

If you want a cool industrial-chic wedding with the elegant touches of a luxury venue, consider the Titanic Hotel in Liverpool's Stanley Docks. Styled like a Manhattan loft, housed in a Grade-II listed warehouse, it can host a huge 600 guests in its Rum Warehouse. With floor-to-ceiling iron windows and brick walls, you'll love having cocktails overlooking the water. The *really* cool bit? There's a replica of the sunken liner's grand staircase, perfect for your own Kate and Leo moment.

600

CONTACT *titanichotelliverpool.com* →





Paradise found

Looking to get married a little further from home? We've found a unique island-getaway in the gorgeous, Cornish Scilly Isles...



JUST A SIMPLE FERRY RIDE AWAY from Penzance or Lands End, you'll find a distinctly warm welcome on the pretty island of St Martin's, and we mean warm, (hello alfresco wedding!) it's an average six degrees hotter than the UK mainland all year round, just one of the many reasons why holding your big day here is guaranteed to be a *seriously* special event. The best reason though? The ultra-stylish Karma St Martin's hotel re-opening in May 2015. There's been a lot of buzz in the wedding world about this stunning venue. Nestled amongst gently sloping terrain on the south-western shore of St Martin's, it has breathtaking coastal views overlooking the deep azure waters of Tean Sound and Tresco and is cleverly designed to look like a charming cluster of cottages. You'll find a private, white sand beach and your own boat jetty, perfect for making a super-special entrance on your big day, not to mention its unique sub-tropical flora and fauna (think Palm trees and cacti) and you could be forgiven for imagining you're on your own castaway island. Recently taken over by the geniuses at the Karma group (they have fabulous five-star resorts all over the world from the Bahamas to Bali), this is their first UK property and they've certainly put the luxury stamp on everything. Enjoy a mind-melting massage in the sumptuous spa or revel in the fine dining cuisine served in the restaurant, and weddings are no different. Hold your special day here and you can choose from several easy-to-book packages to make planning as simple as possible, or why not meet the dedicated events co-ordinator (and the head chef!) to create a bespoke day that has *you* written all over it? We know you won't be disappointed. *For more information visit karmaresorts.com or call 01720 422 368*



BRIDES OFFER

Book your wedding at Karma St Martin's and you and your groom will get a two night stay (half-board) absolutely free! Quote KarmaBride. Offer ends 31 July 2015.



"You'll find a private beach and boat jetty - perfect for making a big day entrance!"

WEEKEND wedding

Why spend just one day with all your family and friends, when you can enjoy three days together at axnoller?



Girl time!



One of the steaming outdoor hot tubs at Axnoller

LOOKING FOR A SUPER-STYLISH VENUE, WHERE CONTEMPORARY MEETS ANTIQUE DÉCOR AND YOU CAN REALLY MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME? Look no further than Axnoller nestled within 100 acres of Dorset countryside, 20 minutes from the dramatic Jurassic coastline.

Friday First Impressions

With three traditionally English houses – two converted barns and a magnificent main house – there's ample space for your wedding party to prepare for the big day. Guests can check in to one of the luxe barns, Voltaire or Burggraaf – both sleep 12 in six en-suite rooms, which come complete with indoor swimming pools and outdoor hot tubs.

The girls can relax and be pampered with spa treatments while the boys head off for a spot of golf or clay pigeon shooting nearby.

In the evening, your private chef will rustle up a fabulous feast – anything from a gourmet BBQ to a three-course dinner. And after that, why not kick back and round off the evening chatting under the stars in one of the amazing outdoor hot tubs...



Pretty in pink: a marquee at Axnoller


Tables set up in the main house

Saturday I Do

Wake up to breakfast served by your very own chef, then sneak in a quick massage to calm your nerves, before turning your bedroom into a beauty boudoir. The guest houses at Axnoller can sleep up to 34 between them, while the venue in its entirety can host weddings from 12 to 250 or more. Our favourite spot for saying 'I do' is the covered courtyard at Burrgraaf house which seats up to 120 guests. Choose a magnificent Mughal-style marquee though, and there's no limit to the guestlist! What's more, this year there will be a fab new rustic-chic party barn, where you can host your ceremony and reception indoors. Menu-wise, the in-house caterers will conjure your hearts' desire, while the Axnoller team are on hand to execute all the other details. And to finish your big day? A bottle of champagne in your suite overlooking the stunning countryside...






The heavenly swimming pool at Axnoller



Sunday R&R

To banish the dreaded morning-after hangover, what could be better than a dip in the pool followed by a bacon-sarnie brunch with Bloody Marys? After that, you can head to the coast with your wedding party for an invigorating stroll on the beach before coming 'home' to get changed in preparation for your honeymoon. Having said that, be warned: you might find it quite hard to leave this delightful British hideaway…

VISIT AXNOLLER.CO.UK OR CALL 01308 861744

Photography by: karenmasseyphotographycy.co.uk, courtenayphotographic.co.uk, markbothwell.com, nickstubbs.com

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

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41 MANOR BY THE LAKE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

It's no surprise that this imposing stately home has won awards. Just look at those perfectly preened hedges! Add to that mature woodlands, manicured green lawns, Italian walled gardens and (as the name suggests) a remarkable lake that runs alongside the manor house, and you've got yourself a true winner.

300 £66 Ceremonies can take place either inside the manor or outside by the water.

CONTACT *manorbythelake.co.uk*



42 ASHFORD CASTLE, IRELAND

Recently taken over by luxury group Red Carnation Hotels, Ashford Castle is currently in its final phase of a multi-million-pound restoration. Simply casting your eye over the gargantuan grounds leaves you feeling exhausted on behalf of the gardening team (there are 350 acres). But don't worry: when it comes to your big day, your dedicated wedding planner will make all arrangements as easy as pie. Pierce Brosnan decided to do the deed here, and it's not hard to see why.

€190

CONTACT *ashfordcastle.com*

43 GREAT FOSTERS, SURREY

This Grade-I listed royal hunting lodge, which was originally built in 1550, shoots straight to the top of the character list. Expect wisteria-draped, 200-year-old bridges, creaky floorboards, and having to hunch to pass through ancient low-slung doors. Despite its age, though, the place is immaculately maintained. Post-breakfast, once all your guests have left, take a dip in the outdoor (heated!) pool and explore the magnificent grounds, which feature a Saxon moat, sunken rose garden, grassed amphitheatre and no fewer than four secret gardens.

150 £67

CONTACT *greatfosters.co.uk*



44 HYLANDS HOUSE, ESSEX

Got a massive guestlist? You'll have no issues fitting into the plush new Grand Pavilion just created at Hylands House, which can now host receptions for up to 300. It's a modern venue, in contrast to the grandeur of the main building with its sweeping staircase (right), where you can say your vows in the ornate Victorian Drawing Room or elegant Library in front of up to 80 guests.

CONTACT *chelmsford.gov.uk/hylands* →





45 PENNYHILL PARK, SURREY

Just the seven spots for ceremonies here, then. Pick the Balmoral Suite for grand views, the library for two crackling fireplaces, and – our fave – the terrace pavilion (above) by the charming lily pond. No wonder this ivy-clad palatial pile has seen plenty of famous faces – Daniel Craig and Nicole Kidman to name just two. But it's not just the setting that has people flocking here, it's the two Michelin stars for 'best chef you've never heard of' Michael Wignall.

150 £72

CONTACT *pennyhillpark.co.uk*

46 BOWOOD HOUSE, WILTSHIRE

Your jaw will drop when you step inside the original chapel on this superb estate. Previously, it wasn't possible to get hitched within the house itself, but, late last year, the Marquis and Marchioness of Landsdowne opened their doors for wedding blessings in the chapel, in which generations of the family have been wed. From November to March, receptions can be held in the Sculpture Gallery (up to 32 guests) or the Orangery (up to 100 guests). If you want a larger event, however, a marquee can be set up on the terraces all year round – simply divine.

100

CONTACT *bowood.org*



47 WILDERNESS RESERVE, SUFFOLK

The manor house on this 4,500-acre Suffolk estate, Sibton Park, is a grand Grade-II listed Georgian beauty. It has been immaculately renovated with decadent details, such as Chinoiserie wallpaper and elaborate fabrics, and every mod con that you can think of (it even has a cinema and games room). There are 12 bedrooms and a number of outhouses to put up guests, but the real knockout is the breathtaking landscaped grounds, parkland, serpentine rivers and follies. Host your reception in the main house or pitch a marquee in the gardens for an even bigger bash.

CONTACT *wildernessreserve.com*

48 WOBURN ABBEY, BEDFORDSHIRE

Spring is *the* season to marry here; you'll be treated to a 3,000-strong daffodil bloom as you trot – yes, we think a carriage is required – up the lengthy driveway of this unspoilt estate. We love The Sculpture Gallery (below), with private gardens overlooking the serene Camellia Lake, for a classic ceremony. The estate also includes Woburn Safari Park, and you can even use its Safari Lodge as a reception venue – listen out for the roaring lions.

248 £137

CONTACT *woburnabbey.co.uk*





49 ASSEMBLY ROOMS, EDINBURGH

You won't find a more impressive or versatile space than this, situated right in the heart of the Scottish capital. It's timeless and sophisticated, with all the gold-leaf trimmings (the gilded mirrors are something else), but, satisfyingly, also a blank space, with two function rooms – the grand music hall (left) and the opulent ballroom – just begging for your all-important personal touch.

400 £70

CONTACT *assemblyroomsedinburgh.co.uk* →

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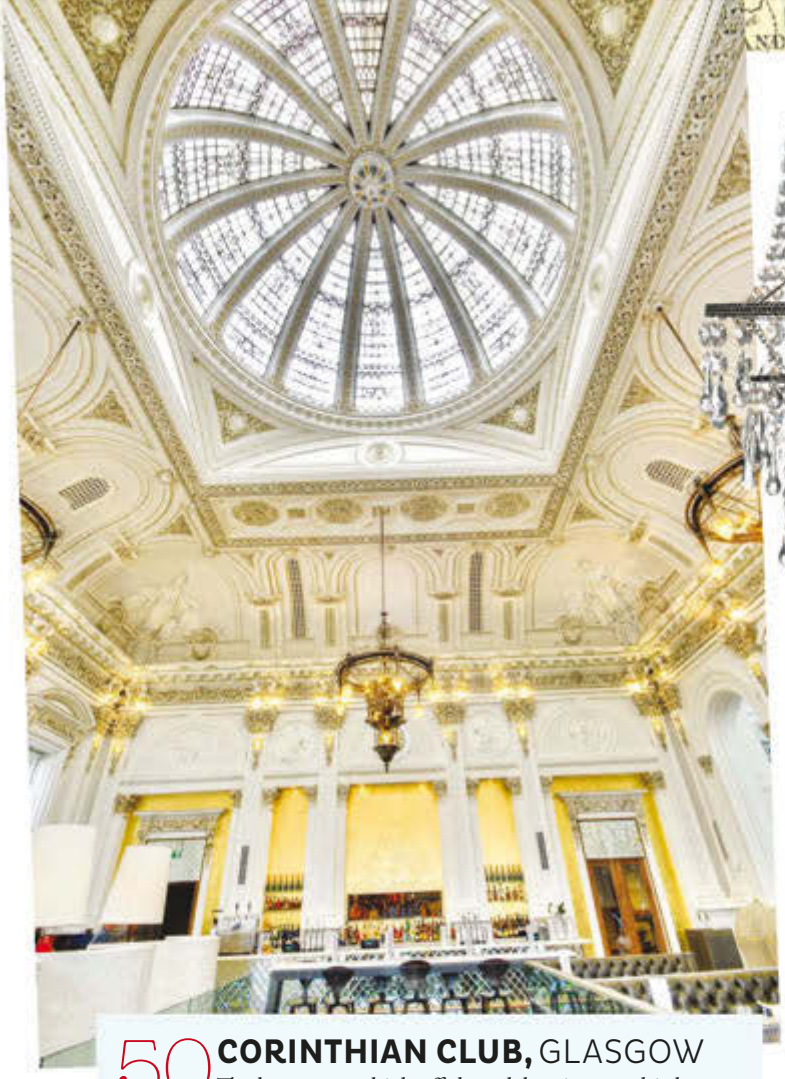
Situated in the Oxfordshire Cotswolds and set within more than 2000 acres of Parkland and Formal Gardens, Blenheim Palace provides the picture-perfect setting for the wedding of your dreams. From civil ceremonies in the elegant Orangery, to grand celebrations in the Long Library and Great Hall, or intimate gatherings in the Saloon, Blenheim Palace provides a variety of unique and beautiful surroundings to suit your individual needs.

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51 BOTLEYS MANSION, SURREY

If there was ever a venue where you could play at being Jane Eyre, this is it. Rolling hills and countryside, crackling fires in grander-than-grand reception rooms, and it's all yours – this property is for exclusive use only. Say your vows in the glass atrium with its crystal chandeliers twinkling above you; it's a special spot for tying the knot.

380 £134

CONTACT *botleysmansion.co.uk*



50 CORINTHIAN CLUB, GLASGOW

The best way to kick off the celebrations at this bar, brasserie and club, spread over five floors? A mixing masterclass with cocktail expert Gordon the night before your wedding day – grab all your maids and get shaking. A former courthouse, the building is ornately decorated, with a 26ft Corinthian dome (above) its crowning glory, and an astonishing half-a-million-tile mosaic floor. And the club's latest addition? The revamped Flying Scotsman room – you'll be holding your day in one of Scotland's slickest new spaces.

140 £54

CONTACT *thecorinthianclub.co.uk*



52 BELVOIR CASTLE, LEICESTERSHIRE

All romantic ramparts and turreted towers, Belvoir Castle, with its almost laughably ideal hilltop setting, cuts a dramatic figure from its privileged position. The castle is still home to the Duke and Duchess of Rutland and their family, who are more than accommodating in making it feel like yours for the day. For your ceremony, they'll let you use the Rutland family chapel in the grounds – and even lend you the Duke's sword to cut your cake.

120 £100

CONTACT *belvoircastle.com*

53 ETTINGTON PARK HOTEL, WARWICKSHIRE

Apparently, the Juliet balcony at this Stratford-upon-Avon country pile was the inspiration for Shakespeare's famous scene in *Romeo & Juliet*. Yes, it's a local rumour, but it's a good one. Bagsy all 48 of its rooms, marry in the extensive grounds (left), dine in the spectacular Long Gallery (inset), with its arched timber ceiling and, since you have exclusive use, party as late you like with your guests.

150 £90

CONTACT *handpickedhotels.co.uk* →


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READY, SET, LET'S GET PLANNING! When it comes to choosing the perfect venue for your special day, it can be difficult to find something unique, special and a space that can accommodate all your wants and needs. Don't worry, we've got it covered with AmaZing Venues. A handpicked selection of incredible properties from all across the country, this carefully curated set will easily inspire you to book your big day venue. From traditional Scottish castles (we love Ackergill Tower, all romantic ramparts and tempting turrets) to a French inspired château (located in Wales, yes really!) it's impossible not to fall in love with these one-of-a-kind locations. How about a historical theme in a stately home? Dating back to the mid-15th Century, Carberry Tower with its rich history and royal connections is a real winner. Sitting majestically in 35 acres of manicured lawns and landscaped grounds, it's an oasis of calm and tranquillity and provides the perfect escape from the hurly burly of modern life – yet, amazingly, it's only a few miles from the buzzing heart of Edinburgh. Or perhaps you're looking for more of a traditional ceremony and reception? The gorgeous Stanbrook Abbey (pictured below) is nestled beneath the gorgeous green ridge of the Malvern Hills.

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...and for something completely different

Looking for a venue with a *serious* wow factor? Spitbank Fort (pictured below) is a wonderfully unique and quirky space for that wedding of a lifetime!





Clockwise from top: The Solent Forts; Château Rhianfa; Spitbank Fort; Stanbrook Abbey; Kinnettles Castle

Visit amazingvenues.co.uk or call 0330 333 7 222 for more information



54 ELMORE COURT, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

This place may only have opened in 2013, but already it's a firm wedding favourite. Now, the 750-year-old manor has unveiled its highly anticipated The Gillyflower (right), a breathtaking 'marquee with a twist'. The structure, next to the main house, is made of 'rammed earth', and the finished look is like an ultra-luxe eco-project straight out of *Grand Designs*. Sporting a flat meadow roof, it's a fun contrast to the main house. Hire all eight bedrooms and have yourselves one *awesome* party pad.

£55

CONTACT *elmorecourt.com*



55 WARWICK CASTLE, WARWICK

We heart castles, and this is the real deal. With seven locations licensed for civil ceremonies, and the Great Hall for a Henry VIII-style banquet, you won't need convincing. But, for the first time ever, Warwick has opened the 14th-century Caesar's Tower for overnight stays in the lavish rooms of past monarchs. Once your guests and the visitors leave (it *is* a tourist attraction, after all), get the 24-hour concierge to light lanterns around the tower's turrets for a fairytale finish to your day. The experience is well worth climbing the 55 narrow stone steps to get to the top.

190 £138

CONTACT *warwick-castle.com*

56 CAMERON HOUSE, SCOTLAND

Roll out the bagpipes for a Scots wedding with a twist. Cameron House has all the Caledonian touches you'd expect: atmospheric loch? Tick. Tartan in the bedrooms? Tick. But you'll also find lovely modern tweaks, like a glossy rooftop infinity pool in the spa. Best way to arrive here? By seaplane, swooping over moody Loch Lomond. It makes for a super-special big-day entrance.

£48

CONTACT *devere-hotels.co.uk*



57 THE BELFRY, WEST MIDLANDS

Having undergone a £26million refurb in 2014 to restore its former glory, The Belfry can host a massive 400 guests for your ceremony in its wonderful maze of flexible spaces. With 319 bedrooms and 14 suites, many with views over the resort's iconic golf course, this hotel, just minutes outside Birmingham (but away from any city din), offers just the 'wow, *that's* a venue!' factor you've been craving.

£130

CONTACT *thebelfry.co.uk*

58 BOCONNOC HOUSE, CORNWALL

Nestled away down two miles (yes, *two miles*) of private driveway is an estate to rival any you would find in a Jane Austen novel. The main house, surrounded by sweeping park and woodland, seats 110 guests for a wedding breakfast (or 240 with an additional marquee), but it doesn't stop there. There are tents by the lake, yurts in the forest and a 19th-century Georgian bathhouse, once an elaborate swimming pool. Handily, there's also a church in the grounds…

240

CONTACT *boconnoc.com* →





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Laura Grayley, 30, married Rich Morris, 29, on 6 April 2013



59 THE CARRIAGE ROOMS, NORTHERN IRELAND

On the Montalto Estate in rural Northern Ireland (35 minutes from Belfast), The Carriage Rooms – developed around a 19th-century threshing mill – are all stone-walled loveliness, with the latest technology cleverly concealed. Throw your champagne reception in the gardens, with their neat herbaceous borders, for a dreamy photo backdrop. There are no noise restrictions here, so think big – live bands, DJs and fireworks are all welcome.

180

CONTACT *thecarriagerooms.com*

60 THE RECTORY, WILTSHIRE

This pretty venue has clearly had buckets of love poured into it. But nothing is overdone here – it's all understated, and probably a lot like you'd want your own (dream) home to be. From the lawn's spotless stripes to the sweet conservatory (30 guests, seated) to the ornamental pond, what's not to love? And back-to-back bookings speak volumes – swoop now to get in on the adorableness.

65 £58

CONTACT *therectoryhotel.com*



61 GLANGRWYNEY COURT, WALES

She says: 'We loved our venue for its flexibility (you can have a marquee wherever you like) and the contrast of old and new. The main house, where you can have your drinks reception, is crammed with antiques, while across an adorable courtyard is a modern barn, where we had dancing. It has a lovely little attic room where guests chilled out on squishy sofas to enjoy our giant cake of cheese.'

100

CONTACT *glancourt.co.uk*



62 HOPE STREET HOTEL, LIVERPOOL

Hope Street threw open its doors on Valentine's Day 10 years ago, and has been a wedding-world hit ever since. Book swish room Fifth, with floor-to-ceiling windows, a large terrace and out-of-this-world cityscapes. And don't forget to take full advantage of the complimentary first-anniversary stay.

70 £65

CONTACT *hopestreethotel.co.uk* →

AT HOME Venues
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63 AXNOLLER, DORSET

This venue, cuddled into the Dorset countryside, is a unique proposal: it's not one, but three houses you take over for not one, but three days – and (the best point) it is truly affordable, with no compromise on perfection. First, there's the main property, Axnoller House (left), resplendent with its sweeping staircase. But you'll also find two converted barns: Voltaire and Burggraaf. They each have indoor pools, saunas, cedar hot tubs and private spas. All three will sleep 36 in total, but why not add a marquee reception or even tipis in the gardens? Owner Alo Brake is so passionate about every wedding she hosts, it's impossible not to be supremely well looked after (and all-night hot-tub parties are not a problem).

150 £70

CONTACT *axnoller.co.uk*

64 MILLBRIDGE COURT, SURREY

Surrey's latest venue is brand spanking new, and you can see how many millions have been sunk into this project, from the raw-oak beams in the main barn to the bespoke furniture and fittings in every corner. Millbridge Court has teamed up with catering company Kalm Kitchen, which brings gourmet dreams to life with a series of inventive canapés served on glam vintage mirrors. Ask for the truffle blinis at your menu tasting – mind-melting stuff.

150 £87

CONTACT *millbridgecourt.co.uk*

65 GREAT JOHN STREET, MANCHESTER

On the hunt for an urban soirée? This charming Victorian schoolhouse is just a stone's throw from Manchester's buzzing city centre, and comes complete with scenic skyline views, higgledy-piggledy historical appeal and 30 stylish bedrooms. Book the rooftop terrace and lounge, Playground, for a laidback affair.

CONTACT *eclectichotels.co.uk*



66 PACKINGTON MOOR, STAFFORDSHIRE

If you're looking for an autumn or winter venue, it's a good idea to source a space with all the facilities to celebrate your day indoors. This is just the pad. It's the unique features that give this homely hangout its charisma, like the two adjoining barns, bar set around a rustic country courtyard, artisan stained-glass windows and cock-eyed timber beams. And come rain or shine, you can't beat a locally sourced hog roast in the sheltered courtyard.

100

CONTACT *packingtonmoor-events.co.uk* →

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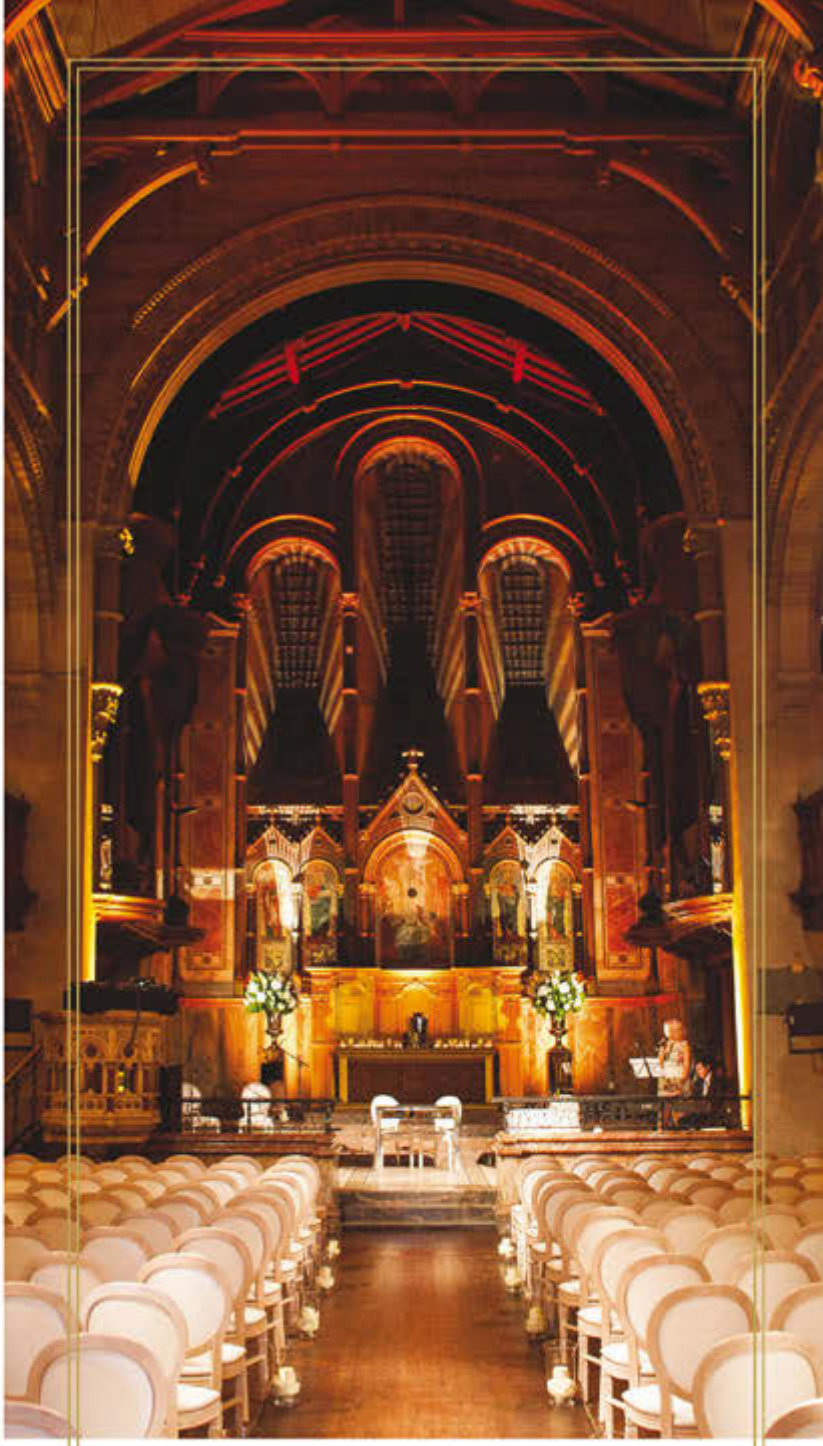




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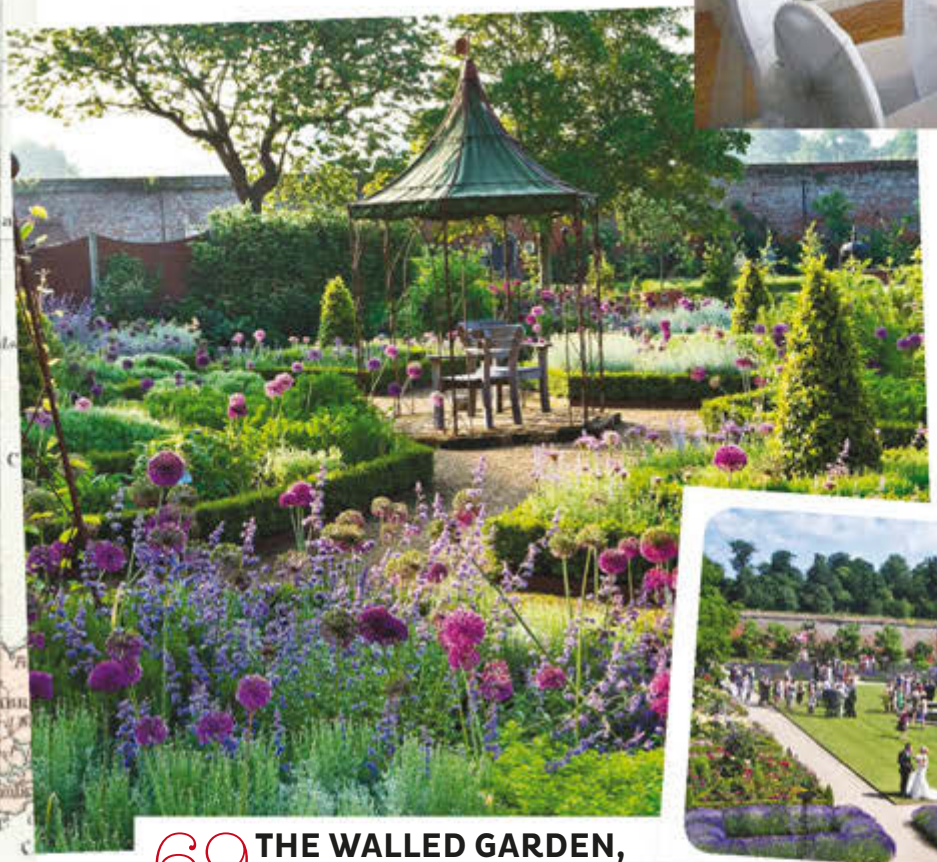
67 LUCKNAM PARK, BATH

Set in 500 acres of parkland, this stunning Georgian country hotel has two beautiful rooms in which to hold your ceremony: The Walmesley Room and The Music Room (which can also cater for up to 30 guests for wedding breakfasts). If you're planning a bigger bash, The Park restaurant can handle 80-plus guests. Interiors are as you'd expect – if you want ultra-modern and minimal, look away now. For lasting memories, plant a tree in the hotel's arboretum, marked with a plaque commemorating your day.

110 £105

CONTACT *lucknampark.co.uk*



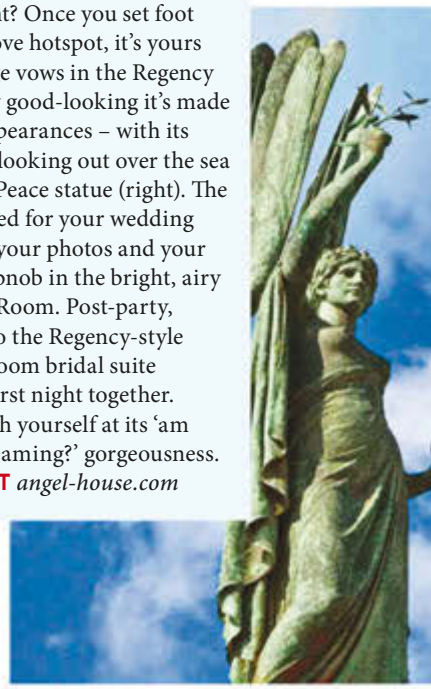


68 ANGEL HOUSE, EAST SUSSEX

Fancy snapping up your very own Grade-I listed townhouse on the seafront? Once you set foot in this vision-in-white Hove hotspot, it's yours and yours alone. Exchange vows in the Regency Room (above) – so crazily good-looking it's made countless TV and film appearances – with its floor-to-ceiling windows looking out over the sea and the famous Angel of Peace statue (right). The room can then be redressed for your wedding breakfast while you have your photos and your guests hobnob in the bright, airy Morning Room. Post-party, slink off to the Regency-style Best Bedroom bridal suite for your first night together. Pinch yourself at its 'am I dreaming?' gorgeousness.

60

CONTACT *angel-house.com*



69 THE WALLED GARDEN, WEST SUSSEX

Welcome to Cowdray Park – home to world-class polo *and* a world-class wedding location. But we're looking for understated luxury in this section, and The Walled Garden, its hidden, lesser-known spot, has it in spades. Step into this Grade-I listed site and the scent of lavender hits you like a welcome memory; it's hard to restrain yourself from skipping among the magnificently manicured flowerbeds. There are two function rooms – The Courtyard Room and the Castle Room – the former licensed for civil ceremonies for up to 130 people, but trust us, you'll want to enjoy your reception in the award-winning garden.

130

CONTACT *walledgardencowdray.co.uk*

70 FOXHILL MANOR, WORCESTERSHIRE

This old-English dame in the Cotswolds has undergone a multi-million-pound restoration, and now strikes a clever combination of old and new, meaning the Manor really doesn't look her age (106, if you're asking). You'll have a team of butlers and maids (how very *Downton*) waiting on you hand and foot, and there's even a string quartet available for your reception. From the terrace, enjoy glorious views over the Vale of Evesham and even, on a clear day, of the Welsh mountains.

80 £135

CONTACT *foxhillmanor.com* B



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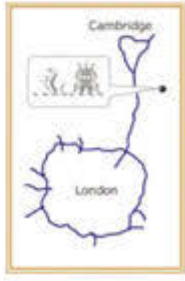


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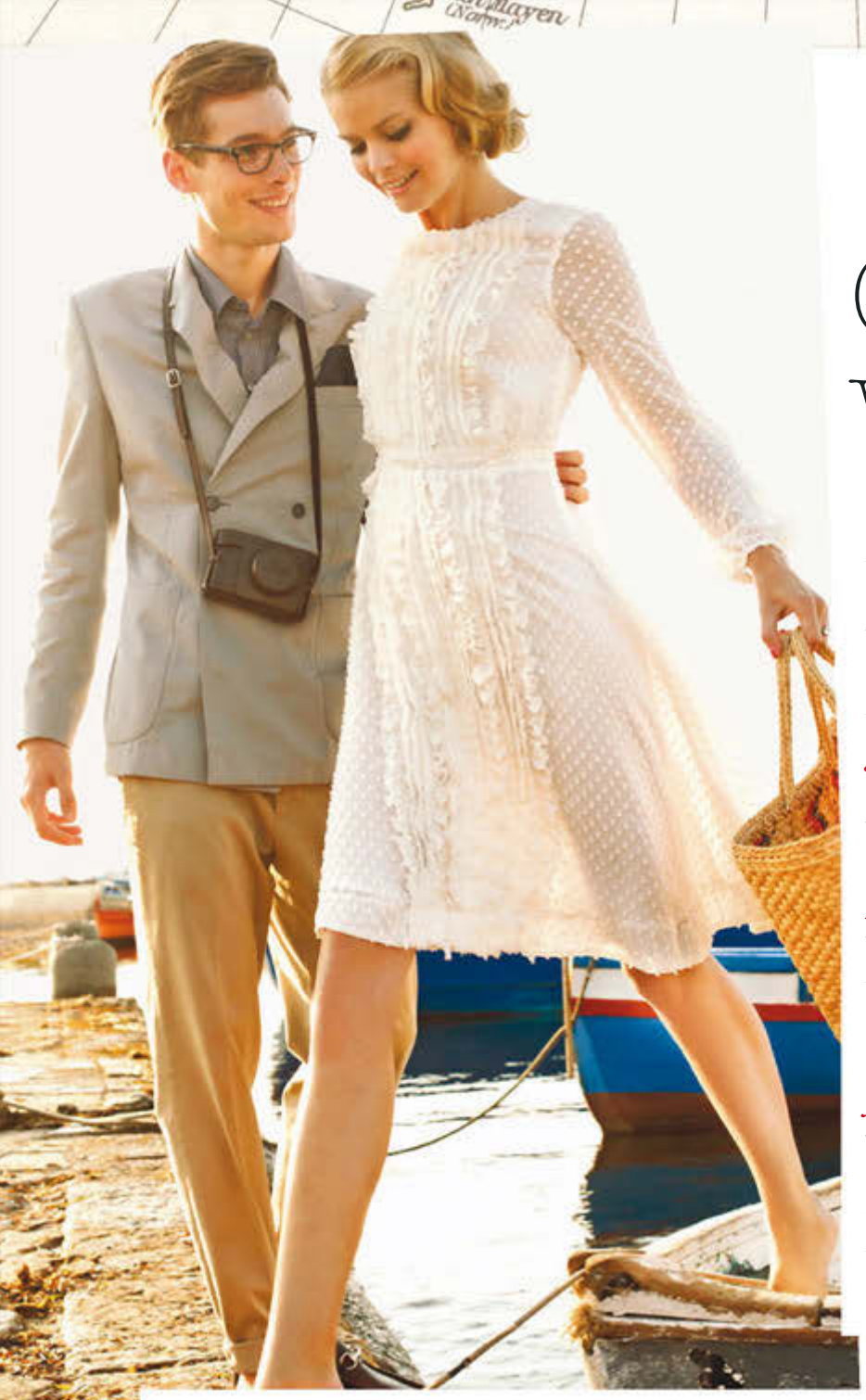
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AIR MAURITIUS



Get set, wed away!

It's here – the first *Brides* pick of the very best spots to get married abroad. If you're even thinking about hopping on a flight to say 'I do', don't book it without consulting this guide. We've given you our ***70 best UK and Ireland venues*** (flip over the magazine to find out what they are), now here are ***30 of the prettiest global locations.*** After all, we know that 18% of *Brides* readers get hitched on sunnier shores! Will it be a classic ***château in France,*** or a chic ***villa in Italy?*** A patch of ***paradise in the Maldives,*** or a fabulous ***party in Miami?*** What about something a little quirkier? At the top of ***Barcelona's coolest, tallest hotel*** or, my personal favourite, in a ***futuristic tree pod suspended in a faraway Swedish forest?*** (Hey, it's your wedding – do it *your* way!) What will you choose? Don't worry, a few hours from now you'll have that dream wedding abroad sorted!

Jade

JADE BEER EDITOR

CONTENTS

56 HELLO, SUNSHINE
Need guaranteed glorious weather on your wedding day? Step right this way – parasols at the ready!

48 I DO... WITH A VIEW!
From a blessing on a boat on a beautiful Indian lake to a ceremony under a cotton tree in a tropical paradise, we've got your picturesque outdoor venue needs covered

44 FAIRYTALE FABULOUS
If your heart's set on a storybook setting in France or Italy, we have five fantastic châteaux and villas to choose from

41 YOU WED *WHERE?*
Make it an occasion they'll be talking about for years: take your vows at the top of a tree, in a giant igloo, or even aboard a pirate ship...

GUIDE TO SYMBOLS

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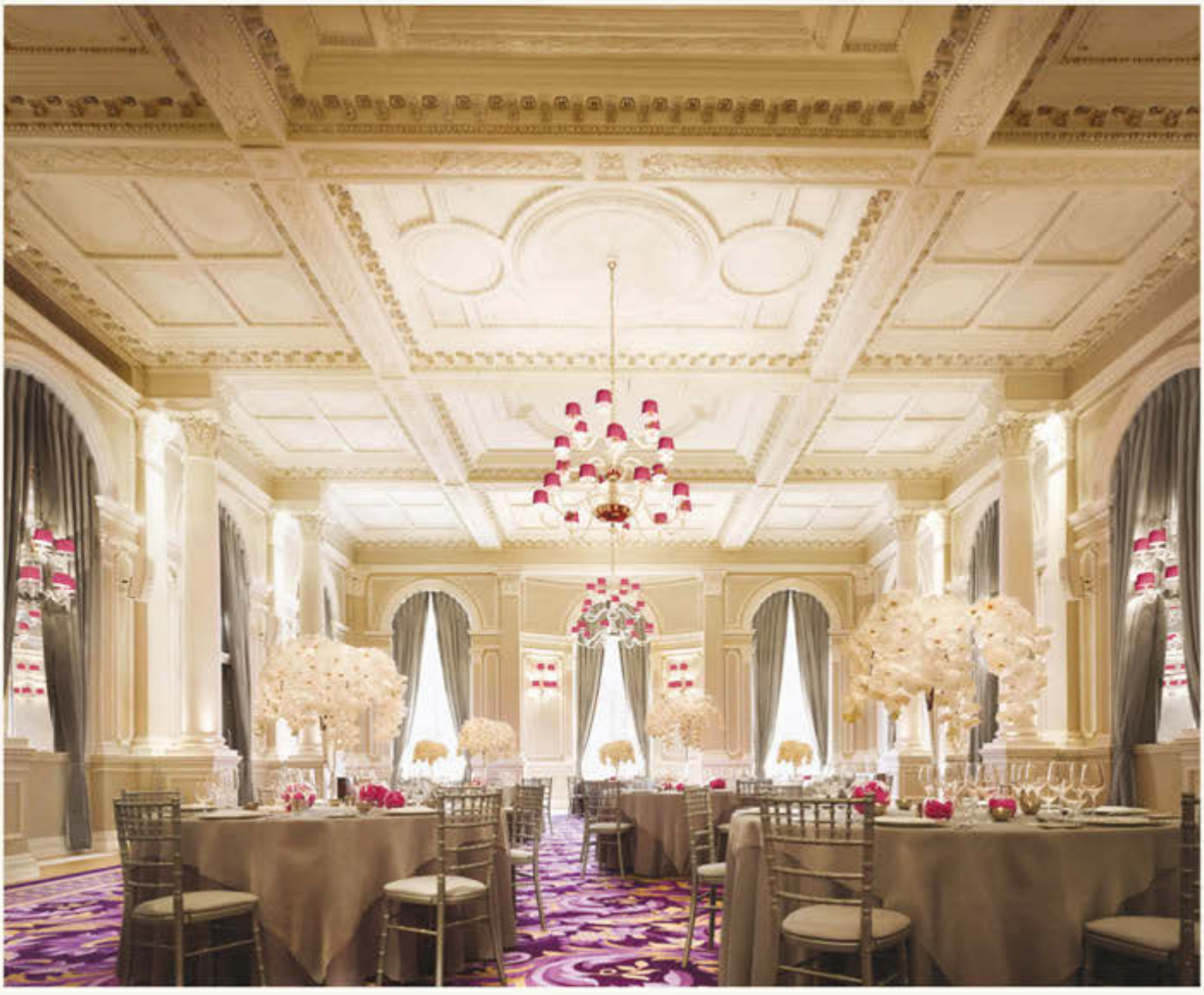
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GOOD TO KNOW! Each country has its own legal requirements for marriage. Before you book your dream venue, check out our guide to 'the legal bit' bridesmagazine.co.uk/weddingsabroad for lots of handy tips

COVER PHOTOGRAPH: AMANDA PRATT. PHOTOGRAPH: TODD MARSHARD

Editor Jade Beer **Deputy editor** Claudia Waterson **Supplements editor** Harriet Chubb **Creative director** Elizabeth Edwards **Designer** Hannah Daw **Managing editor** Louisa McGovern **Chief sub-editor** Emma Byrne **Sub-editor** Greg Hughes **Picture editor** Hannah Lamacraft **Publisher** Camilla Newman **Associate publisher** Victoria Hunter **Advertisement director** Katie Ruocco **Senior account manager** Lily O'Shea **Acting account executive** Elizabeth Isaac ***Brides*** **Bespoke producer** Grace Barnes **Promotions art director** Yasmina Green **Retail editor** Arabella Dupont

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1 GRACE SANTORINI, GREECE

It's no wonder this boutique bolthole has won numerous awards (including a coveted place in the *Condé Nast Traveller* Gold List 2012 for Best Location in Europe). And what a location. The views from the infinity pool are unparalleled – your guests will gather before dinner simply to admire the sunset – and the rooms all have terraces looking out onto the lip of the island's famous caldera. Quick wedmin advice: under-14s aren't allowed at the hotel, and you *may* want to forgo your Jimmy Choos for the big day, as the building is situated on a cliff face, with 149 steps to negotiate.

60 €140

CONTACT *gracehotels.com*

Best time to go: JULY

HELLO, sunshine

TURN UP THE HEAT – THESE VENUES GUARANTEE GLORIOUS WEATHER



2 ANANTARA RASANANDA, THAILAND

Choose between a classic wedding package and a traditional Thai ceremony, walk barefoot down a rose-strewn aisle complete with floral archway, and soak up Anantara's chilled island vibes (you won't find any full-moon parties here). Tip: If you want a cheap-and-cheerful mani and pedi before the big day (approximately £2.50!), there's no need to splurge at the hotel spa – simply stroll out of the resort and drop in at one of the many salons for an authentic Thai experience.

50 B 950

CONTACT *phangan-rasananda.anantara.com*

Best time to go: MARCH

3 SANDALS LASOURCE, GRENADA

This latest offering from the brand that dominates all-inclusive nuptials in the Caribbean is a joy. You'll be looked after by weddings expert Nasasha, whose enthusiasm knows no bounds. You can get hitched almost anywhere in the resort, from just the two of you on the immaculate Pink Gin Beach to a real Caribbean-style shindig in Spices restaurant (if you do, make sure the barbecue jerk chicken is on your menu – it's mouthwatering).

70 $45

CONTACT *sandals.co.uk*

Best time to go: NOVEMBER



Orla Colgan, 32, married Hugo MacNulty, 33, on 5 September 2014

4 CONRAD ALGARVE, PORTUGAL

She says: 'Deciding to get married in Portugal was easy. We have so many special memories from our time there as a couple – and, of course, the weather is amazing! The Conrad Algarve was our number-one choice. It's newly built in the style of an 18th-century Portuguese palace, and we loved the convenient location in the centre of pretty Quinta do Lago. Every aspect of the day was tailor-made for us – we were given exclusive use of the magnificent grounds and party spaces, hosting our wedding dinner in the gardens, followed by dancing at sunset. We then moved inside to the grand ballroom for a late supper and more dancing, into the early hours. We had the time of our lives.'

400 €140

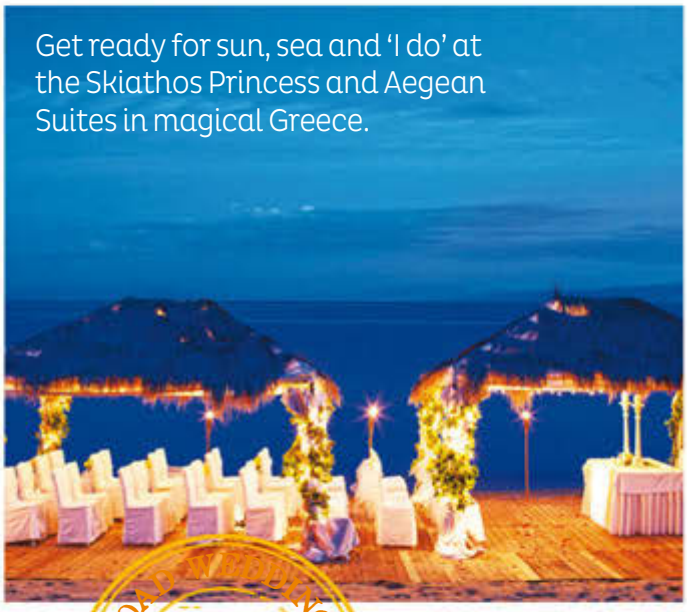
CONTACT *conradalgarve.com* →

Best time to go: MAY

Get wed AWAY



Get ready for sun, sea and 'I do' at the Skiathos Princess and Aegean Suites in magical Greece.



WHO NEEDS RAIN ON THEIR WEDDING DAY? Follow the sun and put yourself in the safe hands of the five-star, boutique Skiathos Princess and Aegean Suites hotels. Vicky Santikos, owner of these delightful family-run luxury hotels, is renowned for the personalised service she gives her clients. 'We tailor-make every event from scratch,' Vicky says. 'Our goal is to offer an extraordinary, memorable, unique wedding experience.' Indeed, Vicky has a host of enticing decorative ideas up her sleeve.

"The natural beauty of Skiathos is the perfect backdrop for a wedding"

For example, if you want a truly magical feel to your big day, she can organise a beach forest strewn with fairy lights. Although the setting is already magical, as Vicky explains. 'The natural beauty of Skiathos, with its fragrant pine forests, the crystal-clear Aegean Sea and pristine powdery beaches, provides a picture-perfect backdrop for your wedding.' The all-suite Aegean Suites, nestled amid olive trees just outside Skiathos Town, overlook a sandy stretch of coastline.

The Pavillion Terrace, with its magnificent sea views, is the perfect spot for a serene, romantic big day. Over at beachfront Skiathos Princess Hotel, the all-white, on-the-beach PR Ammos restaurant is beloved by couples who dream of a toes-in-the-sand ceremony, while being lulled by the sound of the sea. And it's only a swift four hour flight away from the UK, so no need to worry about jet-lag or your guests having to travel too far. In fact, they'll even arrange your guests transfers to the hotel from the airport so you really don't have to think about a thing. So why not let Vicky and her expert team dedicate themselves to your perfect day? It means you can concentrate on the important stuff... enjoying every second of your wedding together with your loved ones. Heaven.







FIND OUT MORE OR **BOOK NOW** BY VISITING SKIATHOSPRINCESS.COM OR AEGEANSUITES.COM

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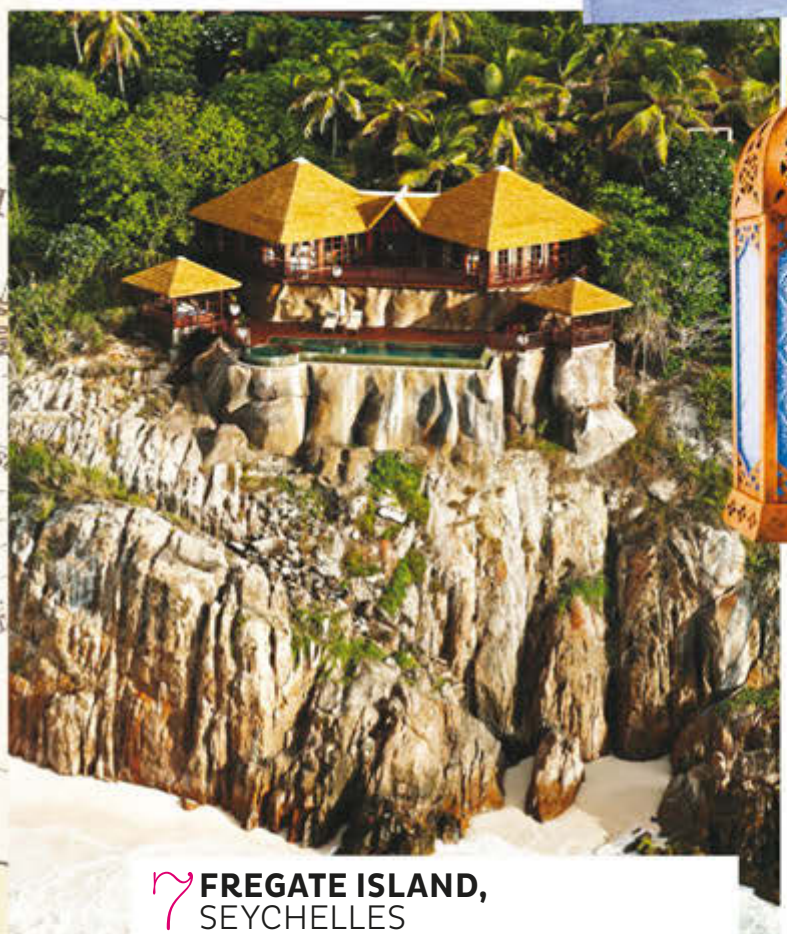
5 THE MULIA, BALI

This elegant resort has three uniquely designed 'floating' chapels, each with its own breathtaking vista. For the perfect photo backdrop, you can't beat the Harmony chapel, with its sweeping ocean view and dramatic aisle entrance over the water. And for the party, the Grand Ballroom is *the* spot, with dramatic high ceilings, which will be decorated as lavishly as you like – if you want every inch of the ceiling covered with hanging orchids, you've got it. Plus, with an on-site wedding planner to handle every detail, it's 100% stress-free.

250

CONTACT *themulia.com*

Best time to go: SEPTEMBER



6 ONE&ONLY, REETHI RAH, MALDIVES

The Maldives never disappoint. So why not make this classic honeymoon destination the venue for your ceremony and reception, too? Reethi Rah is now hosting weddings, with everything taken care of from the moment you alight on its golden sands (there are 12 beaches to choose from), right down to the candlelit dinner you'll be whisked off to post-ceremony.

150 $250

CONTACT *oneandonlyresorts.com*

Best time to go: APRIL



7 FREGATE ISLAND, SEYCHELLES

Fancy a private island the size of Monaco as your reception venue? There is something bewitching about this Indian Ocean location. It could be the original chapel, perfect for a ceremony of 20 seated, or the thousands of giant tortoises and turtles that pepper the island, but it's most likely the rich history of the archipelago – there are so many hidden-treasure-chest stories, you can almost spot the Jolly Rogers offshore.

60 £1,760 UK

CONTACT *fregate.com*

Best time to go: JUNE

8 BELDI COUNTRY CLUB, MOROCCO

Sultry, seductive, almost otherworldly – not only is Morocco enchanting, it's just a four-hour flight from the UK. This Arabian oasis was the venue for Poppy Delevingne's 2014 week-long bash, and we're just a *tad* envious. Bell tents and riads, palm trees and camels, velvet banquettes and mood lighting, accompanied by devilishly good food = serious fun. Why not have a multiple-day spectacular? Welcome guests with a desert-themed party; have the ceremony in the rose garden, with views of the Atlas mountains; round it off with a barbecue by the pool.

€75 UK

CONTACT *beldicountryclub.com* →

Best time to go: OCTOBER

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You've experienced one luxury stay, you've seen them all, right? Wrong. Vibrant flavours, spectacular nature, local culture – LUX* Resorts and Hotels have delights aplenty in common, but each has its own surprises. This means bad news for ordinary hotels, but good news for you, whether in your suite, on sea or in the spa…



Indian Ocean's most breathtaking islands – La Réunion, Mauritius and the Maldives – and China's undiscovered Tea Horse Road are now, thanks to LUX*, destinations that promise cut-above holidays with fresh and inspiring experiences. Where else lets you savour a tantalizing bento box while you sunbathe... has experts to take you kitesurfing or skydiving... lets you whip up bespoke exotic ice cream in just-made waffle cones as easily as innovative cocktails... then sends you stargazing with an in-house astrologer? We'd whisper more to you, but where's the fun in that? You're better off waiting to enjoy a little LUX* magic in person.

Postcard-perfect sand and sea, service where no ask is too much and once-in-a-lifetime excursions – expect every moment with LUX* to be extraordinary. It helps that there is an obsessive attention to detail too, right down to the couldn't-be-more-comfortable beds. Sleep well, celebrate life to the full, is how these hotels roll. Take Café LUX* – the aromatic house-roasted brew served by skilled baristas – this organic blend takes coffee enjoyment to the next level. Similarly, a spell in the LUX* ME spa won't just slip you into a lower gear with some pampering – this world of wellness dangles a results-focused treatment list that includes an exclusive detoxifying therapy, Zhengliao, from China's Daoji Clinic. You won't just go home feeling your best, you might say, LUX* insists.

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9 CASTELNAU DES FIEUMARCON, FRANCE

Why rent a marquee when you can hire an entire medieval village? Perched on a French hilltop, walled Castelnau is entered via a grand 13th-century archway, which leads to the village chapel. Take drinks on the terrace, overlooking fields of sunflowers, before a reception in a rustic banquet room (inset). Michelin-starred chef Fabrice Biasiolo's menu is serious business but, despite exquisite standards, this place is wonderfully unpretentious. The true magic begins at night, when the tiny cobbled streets are lit with flaming torches to guide you back to your room.

120

CONTACT *gascony.org*

Best time to go: AUGUST

10 JUMBY BAY, ANTIGUA

Fancy an exclusive 300-acre private island off the coast of Antigua, staying at a resort run by some of the best in the business? Us too. And this year, Jumby Bay, reachable only by boat, is launching its 'Run to the Altar' package, a foolproof service for weddings with up to 20 guests. The deal includes three nights' accommodation for your guests in a Beach Courtyard Suite (so alluring you might not see any of them at all), a beach party rehearsal dinner the night before and, of course, all the trimmings on the actual day. Looking for something really special? If money is no object, you can hire the entire island.

20 £1,550

CONTACT *rosewoodhotels.com*

Best time to go: DECEMBER



11 THE JAMES ROYAL PALM, MIAMI

The energy in this city is infectious – from all-day beach parties to all-night day-glo and DJs – and it's a heady destination for a wedding. The James Royal Palm is slap-bang in the middle of this South Beach action. Host a pre-ceremony brunch on the Pool Deck; ditch the champers for vodka and fresh lime juice, before raving the night away at The Breezeway, the James' outdoor event space with airy private cabanas.

120 £175

CONTACT *jameshotels.com*

Best time to go: FEBRUARY



12 NECKER ISLAND, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Sir Richard Branson's private patch of paradise treats you like a superstar. Staff will light fireworks, whip up a wedding cake, arrange for a boat to bring the local pastor to shore, and whether you choose to say 'I do' on the beach or in a marquee, they'll decorate for beach-casual or full-on formal receptions. While you're there, you and your party can take full advantage of the location, swimming in the freshwater infinity pools or admiring the island's animal residents (there are 200 flamingos and 50 lemurs to spot!).

30 £1,350 UK

CONTACT *neckerisland.virgin.com* →

Best time to go: JANUARY

French Fancy

If it's a chic and sleek Provencal beauty you're looking for, search no further. This is the venue for you...





NESTLED IN LUSH GREENERY AND FLOWERY GARDENS, Terre Blanche elegantly merges into the peaceful and romantic atmosphere of Provence. And we can't think of a better place to wed away than at this exclusive resort. Picture breathtaking views over wooded hilly countryside, your own private terrace, and a peaceful infinity pool... This is pure perfection from sunrise to sunset (and they are both mind-blowing in case you were wondering!), it's the south of France destination everyone is talking about. Imagining a big day beyond your wildest dreams? The attentive and experienced team are guaranteed to make it happen. The dedicated wedding planner will help prepare every step of your event, working closely with the banqueting director and other key staff. We're talking designing menus with the chef, talking (and tasting!) wedding cake with the Pastry Chef, selecting wines with the talented sommelier and sorting out the finer details with the super-charming maître d'hôtel. But where to wed on this glorious estate? There's a plethora of terraces, patios and pools to fall in love with. The resort offers so many possibilities, and thankfully, you can arrange any of them as you wish. The Fayence room for example can accommodate up to 220 guests for a bonanza banquet and 280 for a raucous reception. It opens onto a spacious terrace overlooking the hilly countryside, and is complete with a foyer, perfect for an indoor cocktail. But our favourite? It has to be the glossy infinity pool, this is elegance and sophistication at its finest - a truly stunning spot. Guests can applaud the spectacular views over the Provencal landscape and enjoy the magical lighting at dusk (champagne in hand of course!). And with more than enough sumptuous suites and villas to go around, you'll have no trouble hosting all of your loved ones. This is something special - get in on the loveliness now!

"Our favourite spot to wed? The stunning infinity pool. Hello glamorous."





BOOK NOW!

It's easier than you think to get your dream wedding abroad sorted - the team are on hand and ready to answer any of your questions (in English!) so call now on +33(0)4 94 39 90 00. Or get more information about weddings by visiting the website: ***terre-blanche.com***. Simply tell the team what you imagine for your perfect day and the rest will be taken care of!

I DO... with a view!

DESERTED BEACH, WINDSWEPT HILLTOP OR A BLESSING ON A BOAT? HERE IS OUR PICK OF THE BEST OUTDOOR CEREMONIES





13 W BARCELONA, SPAIN

Where better to get hitched than at the top of this head-spinningly cool hotel in sun-baked Barcelona (left)? The W rises like a tall, shimmering wave from the end of the best beach in the city. Our favourite spot for an outdoor do is perched on the chic Away Terrace (for up to 200 guests), with that view laid out beneath you. Retire to The Great Room for your reception, where your guests will enjoy some inventive cocktails, then round off the night at the Eclipse Bar on the 26th floor with some of Barcelona's funkiest DJs.

200

CONTACT *w-barcelona.com*

14 OBEROI UDAIVILAS, INDIA

Sleepy Udaipur is a million miles from the frenzy of Delhi and other Indian cities. Imagine a town full of chai cafes, wobbly food stands and shops crammed with spiritual trinkets, dotted on meandering pathways. The biggest selling point? It's set around vast, magical Lake Pichola. For an outdoor ceremony with a twist, have your blessing in a boat on the water, then transfer to the palatial Oberoi for a majestic reception with phenomenal lake views.

£50

CONTACT *oberoihotels.com*

15 SKIATHOS PRINCESS, GREECE

This is a family affair, and what an affair it is: think boho-glamour with no hint of chintz – you could be forgiven for thinking you were in some fashionable San Diego beach hotel. As far as ceremonies go, there are plenty of outdoor spots to pick from, but, unsurprisingly, a favourite is the beach, on a rustic wooden deck looking out over the ocean.

£38

CONTACT *skiathosprincess.com*

16 MASSERIA TORRE COCCARO, ITALY

This Italian country-house hotel on the Apulia coast has romance in spades. It's worth booking for the breakfast alone (they serve Nutella pie!), but for your big day, it has its own church and pretty courtyard. Want a glam reception? The hotel's Coccaro Beach Club, voted one of the top 10 in the Med by *The Times*, can cater for a large number of guests.

£102

CONTACT *masseriatorrecoccaro.com* →





17 SANI RESORT, GREECE

You can't go wrong with a Greek wedding: sunshine, picture-perfect whitewashed buildings, scrumptious food and perhaps some plate-smashing. Sani Resort, a handsome hotel on Halkidiki's azure coast, is a classic that we like to revisit time and time again. When it comes to your wedding, the best place of all to exchange vows has to be on the peak of the seriously pretty Sani Hill, a lush green mountaintop with views over the Kassandra peninsula.

250 £170

CONTACT *sani-resort.com*

18 MONTPELIER PLANTATION & BEACH, NEVIS, CARIBBEAN

Surrounded by 60 acres of tropical gardens and sugarcane fields, Montpelier is a heritage-filled gem for those seeking somewhere a bit off the beaten Caribbean track. Get married in the breathtakingly beautiful 18th-century Sugar Mill, or tie the knot beneath the gnarled old silk cotton tree where Lord Nelson got hitched in 1787, which is at its best at sunset.

150 $93

CONTACT *montpeliernevis.com*



19 KALKAN REGENCY, TURKEY

The town of Kalkan on Turkey's Lycian Coast was, until the '80s, a cluster of houses on a stunning bay. Nowadays, there are more than a few resorts, but the bay is just as stunning, and boutique hotel Kalkan Regency has the most glorious views of all. Have your ceremony by the pool and let owners Nuri and Masuda throw you a BBQ-cum-disco you'll never forget.

100 £50 UK

CONTACT
exclusiveescapes.co.uk





20 TANJONG JARA RESORT, MALAYSIA

This Malay palace has everything you would expect from a five-star resort, with buckets of elegance – but opt for a *Bunga* wedding procession through the jungle for a day with a difference. You'll be flanked by drummers and walk down an aisle lined with blazing hurricane lamps, before saying your vows beneath a bamboo arch woven with tropical flowers. Make your exit on a tricycle (get him to pedal!) before a traditional Malaysian dinner in wooden huts.

100 £400

CONTACT *tanjongjararesort.com* →



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FAIRYTALE fabulous

WHEN NOTHING BUT A CHÂTEAU IN FRANCE OR A VILLA IN ITALY WILL DO

21 CHÂTEAU SAINT-MARTIN & SPA, CÔTE D'AZUR, FRANCE

Behind a discreet entrance, this ivy-clad chateau sits proudly amid manicured, tiered gardens, lush olive groves and a giant pool. Pass through reception to find a terrace with panoramic views of the French Riviera. You won't need to organise a separate venue for your ceremony here – the château's own chapel room lies at the end of a cool corridor of '50s Riviera photography. Plus, the hotel recently opened five new private villas in the grounds, where you and your maids can have one amazing getting-ready party.

160 €121

CONTACT *chateau-st-martin.com*

Luisa Lepore, 30, married Geraint Christiaan Steyn, 27, on 14 July 2014

22 VILLA DEL BALBIANELLO, LAKE COMO, ITALY

She says: 'Since I was a little girl, it's been my dream to get married in Italy. My father's family are Italian, so it felt like a natural choice. Venue-hunting in Lake Como was incredible, and we saw six venues in total, but the minute we arrived here, we knew it was the one. Villa del Balbianello is on a peninsula and reachable only by boat, so it's a secluded paradise. We fell in love with the spectacular views of the lake and landscaped gardens. It has the perfect mix of romance, history and glamour – *Casino Royale* and *Star Wars* are among a number of films that have been shot here!'

50

CONTACT *italianlakeswedding.com* →







23 CHÂTEAU BOUFFÉMONT, PARIS, FRANCE

A haven of peace, built in the 19th-century, this classy château and its surroundings will be entirely yours for the duration of your stay – just stepping over the threshold will leave you feeling like lord and lady of the manor. You wouldn't guess this French fancy is just 320 minutes from Charles de Gaulle airport. Make your post-ceremony grand entrance down the regal-looking stone staircase (above right) – entwined with hundreds of pretty roses – before a wedding feast prepared by the super-talented executive chef.

320 €85

CONTACT *chateaubouffemont.com*



24 VILLA NOCETTA, ROME, ITALY

Think Italian villa and it conjures romantic rustic images of terracotta roofs and classic furniture. That's not the case at this contemporary treat. Villa Nocetta is a welcoming fusion of styles. From the outside, it's a trad-esque building with heaps of charm, but inside, chic modern fittings and unique art are sprinkled around spacious rooms. It comes fully staffed – including a chef and concierge – and they can cater for weddings of up to 100 people with a customised service (no strict packages to adhere to). Our advice? There are so few villas to rent near the Eternal City that this is gold dust – get booking.

100

CONTACT *villanocetta-rome.com*

25 CASTELLO DEL NERO, TUSCANY, ITALY

Who wouldn't want to get married in Tuscany, a glorious landscape of sun-baked rooftops, avenues of cypress trees, and bountiful food and wine? Nestled within the Chianti wine region, just half an hour's drive from Florence airport, is Castello del Nero, a magnificent 12th-century castle with the very best of 21st-century facilities. Say your vows in the frescoed private chapel (above), before celebrating on the panoramic terrace, with its views over vineyards and olive groves. The hotel's chef uses local organic produce to create culinary delights in the Michelin-starred La Torre restaurant.

120 €130

CONTACT *castellodelnero.com* →



PHOTOGRAPHS: EDPEERS.COM; NIRAVPATELPHOTOGRAPHY.COM



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You wed WHERE?

HOW ABOUT GETTING HITCHED IN A GIANT IGLOO OR ON A PIRATE SHIP...



27 LION SANDS GAME RESERVE, SOUTH AFRICA

Picture yourself arriving for your ceremony by hot-air balloon, drifting over the vast Kruger National Park… it's an adventure wedding with a luxe twist. You'll be joined by giraffes, zebra and maybe even the odd rhino while you exchange vows in the bush. But the real highlight? Your reception in the wilderness, bathed in torchlight, beneath the glittering African stars.

50

CONTACT *lionsands.com*

26 SALT PANS, MALTA

You might think you've just landed on the moon at the bonkers Salt Pans, which stretch two miles along the sea front in Gozo. This 350-year-old 'chessboard' of shallow pools cut into the rock collects saltwater in the summer, before it slowly evaporates, leaving behind pure salt residue, which is collected, stored and sold by locals. Lit up at night in rich reds and deep purples as well as hundreds of LED 'candles', the venue assumes an even dreamier atmosphere.

£280

CONTACT *ionianweddings.co.uk*



28 ICE HOTEL, LAPLAND

There will soon be even more fun to be had at this wacky winter wonderland, which is having a number of new features added imminently in honour of its 25th anniversary. A wedding at the atmospheric Ice Chapel (right), with its chilly pews (below right), is one to remember. Enjoy a starry, snowy night-time husky safari to round off the party, before zipping yourselves into your cosy sleeping-bag-made-for-two (yes, *really*) atop a thick layer of soft deerskins.

45 UK

CONTACT *discover-the-world.co.uk*



29 TREEHOTEL, SWEDEN

Who wants to get married with their 10 nearest and dearest in a futuristic tree pod high in the branches of a Swedish pine forest? No fancy decor is needed when the Lule River and Nordic valleys provide such a spectacular backdrop, and once you've clambered back down you can enjoy a wedding feast of roast reindeer and local cloudberries. Your only dilemma will be whether to spend your first night as man and wife in a treehouse shaped like a mirror cube or a dragonfly.

12

CONTACT *treehotel.se*



30 TIGER BLUE BOAT, INDONESIA

There's zero chance of your wedding looking like your bestie's if you opt for this traditional timber *pinisi* yacht as a venue. Essentially, it looks like a pirate ship – but a luxe pirate ship, with chef, expedition leader and divemaster. You can't actually wed onboard – although the crew can find a secluded stop-off – but with 12 cabins and a giant dining deck, you can have one helluva party.

CONTACT *tigerblue.info*



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